

THE WELLMAN EXPEDITION.

THE PERILS OF THE POLAR SEAS.

MR. WALTER WELLMAN and the American members of his Arctic Expedition reached Hull by the Norwegian Mail on 28th August. Mr. Wellman came ashore on crutches, quite unable to walk owing to the accident which occurred five months ago, when his right leg got injured in the ice. Apart from this, all the explorers were in good health. Mr. Wellman gave the following account of his expedition:—

Our party, he said, consisted of nine members, four of whom were Americans, and five Norwegians. The Americans were Mr. Evelyn B. Baldwin, Mr. Quirf Harlan, physicist and photographer, medical officer, and myself. Our five Norwegian sailors were Bernt Bentzen (who was with Nansen on the *Fram*), who unfortunately lost his life, Paul Bjorvig, Daniel Johannsen, and two brothers named Emil and Olaf Ellefsen. The objects of the expedition were twofold, first to complete the exploration of Franz Josef Land, of which the north and north-east parts were practically unknown; and second, to make, if possible, a high latitude, or even the Pole itself. The first part we were able successfully to accomplish, and the second we should have been able to achieve at least to the extent of advancing nearer to the Pole than any previous explorers, but for the accident to myself.

Our party assembled at Tromsø on June 26th, 1898, and thence sailed in the sealer *Frithjof* for Archangel, where our Siberian dogs, 83 in number, were embarked. From Archangel we steamed north in the direction of Cape Flora, Franz Josef Land, the headquarters of the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition. On July 28th we stepped ashore and went to Elmwood, the depot made by Mr. Jackson.

NO TRACE OF ANDREE.

The Union Jack, which had been run up on the flagstaff there when the British party left, was still floating in the breeze, and the lonely Arctic settlement remained in exactly the same condition in which it had been left. We had hoped to find some traces of Andree here, but were disappointed. We effected an entrance into the log house, having Mr. Harmsworth's permission, and took on board our steamer a small collapsible house to serve as our depot. For the information of subsequent travellers and also as a measure of precaution, we left some letters on the table of the log house, and, after carefully refastening the doors, re-embarked on our ship. Before sailing we ran up an American flag on the pole underneath the British ensign. We steamed due east towards Cape. Together, we reached there on July 30th. Landing, we set to work to establish our head depot. The provisions, sledges, &c., were all sent ashore, and on August 3rd the steamer returned to Norway. Our headquarters were erected on a shelving beach, where 25 years previously Payer had set foot on Franz Josef Land. His was the only expedition that had ever been there. At the back precipitous basaltic cliffs rose to an elevation of 1,400 feet; in front was the dreary expanse of ice and sea. Our depot consisted in part of the small hut which we brought from Cape Flora, eighteen feet in diameter, circular in form, and roofed with canvas, and an adjoining storehouse, built of lumber which we had brought from Archangel. The Stars and Stripes were run up, and the place was named Harmsworth House. My plan now was to use the remainder of the summer in establishing an outpost as far north as possible, and accumulating there stores and equipment. To this end Mr. Baldwin and a party of Norwegians started on August 5th with sledges, dogs, and small boats over the ice, myself and the remainder of the party intending to follow in a few days.

This we afterwards found ourselves unable to do because of the sudden break up of the ice and the rough seas.

A DANGEROUS JOURNEY.

Mr. Baldwin gives the following account of his journey north:—

The object of the advance party under my charge was, as stated, to establish an outpost and to secure a winter supply of walrus and bear meat for ourselves and the dogs.

My party, on leaving the head depot, advanced northward to the entrance of Austrian Sound; lying between Hall Island and Wilczek Land, thence north to Cape Heller, on the west coast of Wilczek Land. On September 21st we reached Cape Heller, at about latitude 81, where we decided to make an outpost station, it being quite impossible, owing to the ice-conditions and the lateness of the season, to push further north. From the very outset we had a constant fight with high seas, breaking ice, strong winds and thick fog. Over and over again the ice over which we were travelling opened with a great crash, leaving us stranded on small ice islands. Our only means of progression was to jump, or, by means of the boats, to reach the next ice, a proceeding attended with much difficulty and danger.

When about 14 days out from the head depot, two of the Norwegians overlook us and informed us of the circumstances which prevented Mr. Wellman and his party following as intended. His instructions were that I was to erect the outpost as originally arranged, to leave it in charge of two Norwegians, and then return to the base. The depot which I built was made of stone, the walls being three feet thick. It was six feet wide by 22 long, and was covered with walrus hides, and made as waterproof as possible. Outside the main walls we erected a stone corridor banked up with snow. A large supply of blubber, drift wood, and walrus meat was stored in this corridor. Having completed the building I called for volunteers to take charge of it. Every one of the Norwegians wanted to remain, but as I could only select two I picked out Bernt Bentzen and Paul Bjorvig. On October 22nd, just as the Arctic night was closing in, I left the outpost, which I named Fort McKinley, and started back for headquarters. Little did I think that of those two brave men who waved their adieux to us—and he apparently the strongest of the party—would leave his bones in those Arctic solitudes. It took eight days of hard travel to retrace our steps to Harmsworth House. It was only with great difficulty that in the darkness we managed to get through safely. The cold, too, had by this time become intense. On October 30th, however, we rejoined Mr. Wellman, very fatigued, but in good health.

ADVENTURES WITH BEARS.

The whole party then settled down for the Arctic winter, passing the time comfortably in the canvas-covered house which was completely buried under snow drifts. The explorers slept at night on the floor in reindeer-skin sleeping bags, and a great variety of good food including fresh bear meat. The bears were plentiful until January, and a good many were killed, forty-seven being the total record of the expedition. The day before Christmas a bear came near to evening up the score, sneaking behind Mr. Wellman, and leaping upon him while the explorer was walking outside the hut. The bear's paw just struck Mr. Wellman's shoulder. Happily the dogs rushed on the brute and frightened him away. Shortly before this Mr. Harlan also had an experience with a bear, who charged him but was also driven off by the dogs. The winter was spent in taking scientific observations and before the sun returned—on February 18th—Mr. Wellman, three Norwegians with sledges and dogs, started north. This was nearly a month earlier than the start made by Nansen in 1895, and is the earliest date on record for the commencement of field work. The remainder of the party stayed at head-quarters.

THE DEATH OF BENTZEN.

Speaking of this journey Mr. Wellman said:—

During these latter days of February we had very little light, and stumbled along like drunken men in the deep snow and rough ice. On February 27th we came in sight of Fort McKinley. It is an odd circumstance that as we approached the mass of snow under which the hut was buried, the thought ran through my mind, "What if one or both of the men should be dead?"

As I advanced towards the tunnel which led down into the hut a man appeared at its mouth, rifle in hand. Instinctively I knew something was wrong. The man was Paul Bjorvig, and as he shook my hand the tears came in to his eyes, and he said: "poor Bentzen is dead!" It was true. Taken ill early in December, and steadily growing worse, he had been tenderly nursed by his comrade Bjorvig. The two men had been close companions in Norway, and right glad were they of this chance to spend the winter together in a far northern hut, only 20 or 30 miles east of a similar hut in which two of their countrymen Nansen and Johannsen, had passed the winter of 1895-96. Before Bentzen was taken ill the two comrades had talked, perhaps only half seriously, of the possibility of one or the other dying, and they made a mutual promise that in such an event the survivor would keep the body of his dead comrade in the hut till help came, instead of trying to bury it in the rocks, where bears and foxes might get at it.

"Of course you have buried Bentzen?" I said to Bjorvig.

"No," he replied, "he lies in there," pointing to the hut. "I kept my promise."

At first I could not believe it possible that the quick and the dead had slept side by side through nearly two months of arctic darkness. But there, in one end of the gloomy little hut side by side lay two sleeping bags. In one were the remains of Dr. Nansen's former comrade, carefully covered, and in the other Bjorvig passed his lonely life. It would be difficult to imagine a more dreadful ordeal for test of human courage than this brave Norwegian had endured, and we were surprised to find him not only sane but cheerful.

He had no books, no companions' but dogs, little to do; and how do you suppose this sailor managed to keep up his spirits? By reciting aloud over and over again the writings of Ibsen and other Norwegian poets, whose works he knew by rote—a remarkable instance, I take it of the power of literature to afford solace even to a humble man through a terrible experience.

Next day we gathered stones and built a tomb, in which our dead comrade was carefully buried, a few fitting words being spoken as we all stood round. On that day we had 70 degrees of cold. Bentzen was a splendid fellow, and it seemed a queer dispensation of fate that he who had passed unscathed through the three years of the *Fram's* voyage should at last be buried in the eternal ice victim of some unknown disease, an unfortunate accident.

After a delay of ten days, due to severe storms, our party of five, including Bjorvig, pressed northward, each man with a sledge and team of dogs. Notwithstanding storms and rough ice, by March 20th we were at latitude 82 east of Rudolf Land, discovered by Payer in 1874. Our prospect at this time were most reassuring. We had everything we needed—tent, canvas canoe, plenty of food, men and dogs in good condition. We had passed through the period of darkness and greatest cold, and had three months or more of the most favourable season before us. We were all confident of being able to reach at last the 87th parallel of latitude, and perhaps further, before turning back. It goes without saying that we suffered as men must always suffer on sledging expeditions in temperatures ranging from 25 to 45 below zero. Sleeping in a tent, with no fires for heating or drying, with blankets and sleeping bags frozen stiff like sheets of metal, requiring two hours of the heat of one's body to thaw them into wet wrappings. But all this is endurable by hardy men, and we were all in fine form and spirits, confident of our ability to push forward an average of nearly a degree per week thereafter. Then occurred a seemingly trivial accident, which turned our satisfactory advance into a precipitate retreat. While struggling with my sledge and dogs in rough ice at the head of the party my right leg was bruised and sprained by a fall in a snow-hidden crevasse. At first the injury did not appear serious, though it was painful, and without saying anything to my companions I went on that day. Next morning I was lame, but doubling my sledge with Bjorvig's continued yet another day. Still I did not realise the seriousness of my hurt, and if something had not occurred to turn us back, we should have pressed on so far that I should never have been able to return alive; but, fortunately for me, fate intervened.

LA DERRANGE.

The night of March 22nd we were encamped upon thick, apparently safe ice, some ten miles from land, in calm weather. There was not the slightest sign of danger, even to our alert practised eyes. About midnight we were awakened by the ominous sounds of ice-pressure. Before we could get out of the tent the ice opened underneath our sleeping bags, and stepping out we found the surface in a most alarming state of upheaval. The ice was in violent motion, deep water-filled crevasses yawned, and a number of dogs and small sledges had been crushed. In the darkness and storm it was impossible to see in what direction, if any, safety lay, and we did not know at what moment we should find ourselves thrown into the water, there to be overwhelmed by the avalanches of ice. We stood our ground,

however, and managed to save most of our equipment and provisions. In doing so it was necessary to take chances of death by stepping upon pieces of ice already tilted at an angle of 30 degrees or more, their lower edges in the sea. My brave Norwegian comrades knew no such word as fear, and after a half hour's struggle we reached a place of safety. Some of our instruments and all our dog food were lost in the upheaval, and while it would have been possible to go on for a time the condition of my leg demanded retreat.

I continued walking or rather stumbling, for two or three days more. At last, unable, unassisted, to get upon my feet when I chanced to fall in rough ice, and my leg being swollen to nearly twice its natural size from foot to high, there was nothing to do but go upon a sledge and be dragged by men and dogs back to head-quarters and medical attendance. Forced marches by my devoted comrades, and the consequent shortening of the time during which I was compelled to remain in the field, saved my life.

SOME USEFUL WORK.

The point at which we turned back was about 25 miles north-west of the Freedom Islands, where Dr. Nansen landed in 1895, and north of these islands we saw and took the bearings and photographs of three islands and a large land, none of which had been seen by either Payer or Nansen. We were also able wholly to clear up the mystery of Payer's so-called Dove glacier, which simply does not exist, as Dr. Nansen had in part shown.

In addition to this useful geographical work, greatly augmented by subsequent journeys under Messrs. Baldwin and Harlan, these two gentlemen and Dr. Hofma, the naturalist, did some valuable scientific work which will, I feel sure, attract much attention when elaborated and reported in proper form. I still believe it possible to reach the North Pole by Franz Josef Land, but whether or not I shall make another effort in that field I am unable to say.

After Mr. Wellman's return to Harmsworth's House on April 9th, Mr. Baldwin again took the field, leaving headquarters on April 26th, accompanied by the four Norwegians, this party having 26 dogs and two sledges provided with provisions for three weeks. The object of the trip was to examine the unknown region to the eastward of Wilczek Land. Severe weather accompanied the advance of the party for the first few days, but upon arriving off the unexplored east coast of Wilczek Land, clearer weather of sufficient duration occurred to enable them to chart the entire eastern as well as the north coasts of that land.

A NEW LAND.

Thirteen miles farther east they had good fortune to discover new land—a large ice-covered island nearly as large as Wilczek Land, and extending to 64 degrees East Longitude. Several smaller islands were also discovered during this journey. After a week spent in the exploration of the new land, the party sledged westward into Austrian Sound, and thence southward to Fort McKinley. Here two boats and provisions which had been left there were taken upon the sledges and hauled back to Cape Tegethoff, the party arriving there on May 30th, having had an eventful, but successful journey of five weeks' duration. The newly discovered land was named Graham Bell Land, after the President of the National Geographical Society of America. Still another exploring journey was made by Mr. Harlan, and later a trip by steamer, the result being a fairly complete survey of the unknown and uncharted parts of the Archipelago.

The whole party having assembled at headquarters, embarked on the sealer *Capella* on July 27th from Tromsø.

MONSTER FOSSIL FOUND.

LARAMIE, Wyo., Aug. 9.—Dr. W. J. Holland of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa., who has a large force or scientists working in the great fossil quarry near Laramie, Wyo., said to-day that Dr. J. L. Wortman and Dr. Coggeshall, formerly of the American Museum of Natural History, who have charge of the work in the Carnegie fossil quarry in Wyoming, have discovered and exhumed a monster fossil dinosaur in a perfect state of preservation, and have obtained nearly the whole of this new species. The animal had a long neck, tall and hind legs and short fore legs. The whole length of the animal was sixty feet, and it stood twenty feet at the hips, the thigh bone or femur being six feet long and fifteen inches in diameter. It had a head like a frog.

"We found the animal near the surface," said Dr. Holland, "and we already have the vertebral column, the centrum of the largest vertebra being twelve inches in diameter; eighteen ribs, which are about six feet long; the entire pelvic girdle, which is something few persons have got complete; most of the bones of the legs and feet, and I believe we will get them all. We also have nearly all of the cervical vertebrae, and are following them into the bluff. We hope to get the bones of the head."

LOS ANGELES, Cal. Aug. 9.—Laden with relics of the Cliff Dwellers, the Rev. Dr. George L. Cole has returned from a journey to the ruined cities of Southeastern Colorado and New Mexico. Valuable results were obtained by excavations in an ancient communal dwelling, as yet unnamed, which stands on cliffs of the Santa Fe River, fourteen miles from Espanola, N. M. There were not less than sixteen hundred rooms in the larger building in its prime. It was 240 by 300 feet. Dr. Cole estimates that from 4,800 to 6,000 people lived in the pueblo.

Among the bones taken from the burial mound were a woman's femur nineteen inches long, showing a giantess, seven and one half feet tall. The cliff on which the ruin stands rises a thousand feet above the surrounding country.

A FRENCHMAN estimates that 20 per cent. of all cannibals eat the dead in order to glorify them; 19 per cent. eat great warriors in order that they may inherit their courage, and eat dead children in order to renew their youth; 10 per cent. partake of their near relatives from religious motives, either in connection with initiatory rites or to glorify deities, and 5 per cent. feast in order to avenge themselves upon their enemies. Those who devour human flesh because of famine are reckoned as 18 per cent. In short, deducting all these, there remains only a portion of 24 per cent. who partake of human flesh because they prefer it to other foods.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

A DEEP-SEA FISH.

ONE of the most striking objects of human workmanship occasionally brought from the coral islands of the Pacific is a large wooden fishhook, which is frequently called a shark hook, but which is described by the natives as being employed in the capture of palu. The hooks are made from the fork or prong of a tree, or sometimes a root is bent and made to grow to the required shape. Mr. C. Hedley, in the "memoir" on Funafuti describes one as measuring 9 in. in length, and weighing 3½ oz., while another weighed nearly 2 lbs., and was 17½ in. in length. What the mysterious palu was which the natives designed this weapon for has long remained a mystery. The capture is surrounded by ceremony and superstition, and the natives would resent the attempted capture of them by Europeans. Louis Becke says that he and an old trader at Funafuti are probably the only living Europeans who have caught a specimen, and that one has to have much experience in deep-sea fishing to capture them. The announcement, then, that a specimen has lately been obtained from Funafuti which has been identified by Mr. C. R. Waite, will rouse a good deal of interest. The fish, after all, turns out to be a well-known deep-sea form, though one which, strange to say had not hitherto been known from the Pacific. In the Atlantic it has a wide range, and it occurs in the Mediterranean. Italian fishermen call it rivetto, and to scientists it is known by a name mercifully but little altered, namely, *Ruvettus*. Off the Cuban coast it is caught in depths of some 300 fathoms. Like many deep-sea fish, it is said to be luminous, and has special phosphorescent organs. In Sicilian waters it reaches the weight of about 100 lbs. In the Pacific the natives say it is found near the islands with lofty peaks, and this statement agrees closely with the known distribution of the peculiar palu-hook. The reason of this is apparently that round the atolls water of sufficient depth is found not far from land, while in the other islands many miles would have to be travelled before the required conditions would be attained. The specimen recently obtained was so large that it unfortunately had to be cut into three pieces for preserving, and as the identification of a fish demands, among other things, that careful measurements be made, this was to be deplored. Still, Mr. Waite has carefully described his specimen, and has no doubt as to the identity of the palu with the Atlantic form.

CATS OF COLD-STORAGE FAME.

THE effect of cold upon the capillary properties of certain animals was strikingly illustrated sometime ago. A warehouseman was annoyed by the ravages of hordes of mice. He had little trouble in the main part of his building, where a couple of well-trained cats kept the place tolerably free from the pests, but in the cold-storage portion the mice held full sway. They nibbled into packages and boxes, and destroyed such quantities of fruits that heroic measures were necessary. It seems rather a cruel experiment, but the nuisance became so unbearable that he decided at last to install a cat in the cold-storage warehouse. Provision to a certain extent was made for her comfort, and she was left to her own devices and the mice.

Pussy seemed to flourish, notwithstanding the cold, and in the course of about a week became the mother of a fine litter of six kittens. After a time three of the latter were removed, but the old cat and her remaining progeny were left in their arctic quarters. When allowed out it was noticed that she grew weak and listless. She tottered about in an aimless way, as though all energy and interest in life were lost. As soon, however, as she was returned to her cold quarters, she recovered her vigor and became as bright and active as usual.

A curious feature was seen observed in the kittens. They grew to an immense size, their coats became long and shaggy, and the fur much coarser than that of an ordinary cat; it had also a peculiar tendency to curl. The feelers, or whiskers, too, grew to nearly double length, so that when they were placed beside the members of their own immediate family the difference was so marked that they might have easily passed for an entirely different breed.

The change took place within three months, giving a curious example of how suddenly and completely nature will adapt itself to the exigencies of climate with the young.

CLEVER ELEPHANTS.

ELEPHANTS have always possessed a reputation for intelligence, and Mr. Sam Lockhart has been instrumental in greatly increasing the esteem in which their intelligence is held by large numbers of people, says a writer in the "English Illustrated Magazine." Mr. Lockhart has been over twenty years in the trainer's business, beginning with canaries, and eventually giving an exclusive attention to elephants, as the result of a two years' residence in India. From India, it may be said, all the clever elephants come; the difference between the brains of the Tanton and the Negro is not greater than between those of the Indian and African elephants.

In his time Mr. Lockhart has exhibited to the public the talents of quite a number of elephants. A few years ago his Jock and Jenny, who are, now in America, made a London reputation. This year his "Three Graces" for a long time provided one of the most popular "turns" in the Palace Theatre programme, Wilhelmina and two baby sisters, Trilby and Haddie. Their performance assuredly touches the highest point yet reached in the education of elephants. They play a game of skittles in true sportsmanlike fashion. One sets up the pieces, another bowls at them, and the third chalks up the score on a blackboard, their zeal and discretion in these several operations exciting the greatest wonderment. "We have rarely seen" to quote a sporting journalist's account of this feat—"anything so exquisitely funny as the long, long aim taken by the bowler before he finally hurls the ball. Like a golfer addressing the ball, he swings, and swings, and hesitates, and finally cocks up one hind leg in the squirming fashion of the amateur billiard player, while the nervous elephant behind the pieces bobs up and down in uncontrollable anxiety."

Apart from the usual elephantine accomplishments, such as dancing, see-sawing, posturing, the "Three Graces" do things that their exceptional ability. Trilby rides a tricycle, and Wilhelmina will actually stand on her head—the only elephant, I believe, which is able to maintain an equilibrium in that position. Haddie will walk backwards and forwards across the stage on the tops of a number of comparatively small bottles. I saw Mr. Lockhart at the Palace Theatre one morning rehearsing these exceedingly difficult acts, and had an opportunity of observing the warm friendship which seemingly prevailed between the huge pupils and their master, who is a man of by no means exceptional stature. Mrs. Lockhart, who happened to be present at the rehearsal, also showed herself to be on the most fearless and familiar terms with the animals.

INDIA IN LONDON.

FRONTING upon and overlooking the splendid squalor of the West India Dock-road there stands a plain, solid appearing building of red brick, through the ever-open door of which dribbles incessantly an attenuated stream of living Orientalism. Hindus, mild-eyed and swarthy of skin, jostle woolly-headed Papuans and straight-haired Malays, writes the "Daily Mail."

Stolid Chinese, volatile "Japs," stern-visaged Arabs, scowling Afghans, and many other more or less strange types of humanity foregather the one with the other, forgetful of religious animosities, forgetful of caste and race prejudices, forgetful of everything, save that they are strangers in a strange land, and that this is their home.

Yes; Home, "The Strangers' Home for Asiatics" is the official designation of the institution. But the title is a somewhat misleading one. The establishment shelters within its hospitable walls the denizens of every country under the sun—save and except only our own.

One of the latest arrivals, for instance, is a gigantic Sudanese black, Mohammed Mustapha by name, who was shot clean through the body at Omdurman. At a word from the superintendent he strides swingingly into the room, salutes in military fashion, and thereafter stands motionless—a statue carved in ebony. With him, also, there comes a little, bent black from Suakin, to act as interpreter; for Mustapha speaks only the strange uncouth dialect of the equatorial negro.

History proves to be a strange one. Five years a slave, eight a soldier, desperately wounded, nursed back to life by British "sisters" invalided out of the army with a gratuity of £20, he finds himself at length at Port Said, stranded and penniless. Weeks of semi-starvation follow, and then he gets a job.

COALING THE "ORIENT" STEAMSHIP.

Deep down in the bowels of the mighty liner he works and works, "trimming" the "black diamonds" that have come. Durling down from above, and at times pausing to wonder how much longer his "ganger" will wait ere relieving him. At length he ceases work on his own account and comes on deck only to discover that he is forgotten, and that the ship is now well on her way to England.

His is a case easy of settlement. He will be shipped back by the first eastward-bound steamer whose captain may chance to be in want of a black fireman, and the home will recoup itself out of his "advance-note" the expense it has been put to.

Every new arrival, however, is not by any means so quickly or so easily dealt with. The authorities, for instance, are often greatly troubled by natives of India, who go over to interview the Queen-Empress in relation to some real or imaginary grievance. One of these a Brahmin, not long ago, actually begged his way to Balmoral, and succeeded in getting near enough to the person of his sovereign to warrant her attendants arresting him. He was sent back by the India Office to his own country; but he returned to England by the next boat, and absolutely declined to go back again until his imaginary "wrongs" were righted. He died eventually in a London prison.

Another man, a Mohammedan named Mohammed Ali Khan, wanted the Queen to enforce a claim for wages against his master, an hereditary native prince. The authorities at Windsor Castle referred him to the India Office, and, on their declining to help him, he decided to adopt a remedy which often succeeds in India but which has hitherto proved a sad failure in London. It is called "Baithna Dorna," literally "Sitting to Fear," and consists in the aggrieved one squatting down on his oppressor's door-step, and remaining there until he dies of starvation and exposure.

To avoid such a scandal as this many wealthy Hindus have not hesitated to part with large sums of money. But the officials at the India Office are not built that way. They communi-cated with the police, and poor Mohammed Ali Khan was haled off to gaol. Afterwards he drifted to Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, and from thence, on his release, he set out on a pilgrimage to Mecca, via Hampstead and the Great North Road.

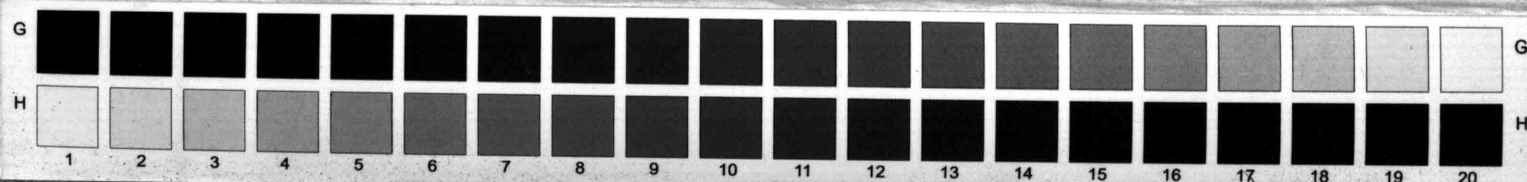
One of the greatest of the many difficulties that the authorities of the home have had to contend with is that connected with the eternal caste question. It is no uncommon thing for a man to arrive late at night, tired out and well-nigh starving, and who yet for fear of breaking his caste will resolutely refuse to touch any food of the institution's cooking. To accommodate such as these separate kitchens and stoves have had to be provided but the bulk of the inmates eat in the common dining room of the viands prepared in the common kitchen.

There are two classes of boarders. Those electing to join what is known as the "Curry and rice" mess pay 10s. a week. The first class mess—usually affected by cooks, stewards and those generally who consider themselves a cut above the ordinary lascar seaman—costs 15s. a week.

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Mothers of children affected with croup or a severe cold need not hesitate to administer Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It contains no opiate nor narcotic in any form and may be given as confidently to the babe as to an adult. The great success that has attended its use in the treatment of colds and croup has won for it the approval and praise it has received throughout the United States and in many foreign lands. For sale by

SMITH STANISTREET & CO.
AND B. K. PAUL & CO.



THE Amrita Bazar Patrika

CALCUTTA, SEPTEMBER 28, 1899.

ENGLISHMEN, THE ONLY GENTLEMEN IN THE WORLD.

A CORRESPONDENT said the other day, that the Sonthals, the savages who inhabit what are called the Sonthal Parganas, were driven into the jungles by the Aryans. The Sonthals, on their part, drove the people who inhabited the jungles to the top of the hills, with which the tract is studded. The Aryans occupied the rich plains of Bengal, the Sonthals were forced to leave these plains to occupy the jungles, and the original inhabitants, who lived in the jungles, had to occupy the tops of hills. Thus man is hunting man ever since he was created. Yet the wretched creature has neither horns, nor claws, nor fangs for offensive or defensive purposes.

Well, the Brahmins, in this manner, subjugated the original inhabitants of Southern India and reduced them almost to the condition of cattle. The pariah is found perhaps only in Madras and not in other parts of India; and we are told that, if he comes across a Brahmin, he has to fly to a distance, "lest the lotus eyes of the Brahmin fall on the unholy figure of the pariah." Under British Government the aspects of our society are undergoing many changes.

There is, however, no one who can support the attitude of the Brahmins towards these pariahs. Brahmins themselves are ashamed of the laws which make a pariah a born outcaste. Englishmen, Christian *padres*, denounce this arrogant attitude of the Brahmins. There are some Englishmen who go to the length of taunting the political Hindu with the remark, "If Brahmins are permitted to treat the pariahs in such an inhuman manner whom they had conquered, why do you object to Englishmen treating you as an inferior race?"

Yes, we have not much to say against the taunt except this, that we do not approve of the attitude of the Brahmins towards the pariahs,—no one does, certainly not an Englishman. Why then should Englishmen follow a practice which is wrong, and which he knows to be wrong? The ancients, we are told, impaled their prisoners, that is no reason that the civilised nations of the world should follow their example. But is it a fact that the Hindu is as far removed from the Englishman in mental and moral development, as the pariah is from the Brahmin? We do not approve of the conduct of the Brahmins who treated the pariahs so harshly, but then the latter were naked savages living upon carrion and filth. What is there in the Hindu to shock the fine sensibilities of the Englishman?

Indian tourists, who have seen Europe, or the world, testify to the fact that the Englishman is "the only gentleman" in the globe. We, in Bengal, find in the higher classes of Englishmen the pink of courtesy; they are born gentlemen, who are incapable of either doing a dishonourable or mean act, or of hurting the sensibilities of the weak, the inferior, and the dependent. But it is not so in all parts of India, at least not in some parts of Northern India, and the same courtesy is not visible among the lower classes of Englishmen, even in Bengal. Here is a story told by a correspondent of the *Lahore Tribune*—

ABBOTTABAD UNDER MILITARY RULE.

For the benefit of those who intend to visit the cool little military town of Abbottabad on a pleasure trip, we print the following we have received from a correspondent who signs himself "Sad Experience." "I and four other gentlemen," he writes, "had gone for a walk towards the cantonments. Feeling tired we sat down on the parapet of a bridge. But a Gurkha soldier (not in uniform) we saw advancing towards us, ordered us to get down, and we did so at once. He then demanded two annas per head from us "as a fine." Not knowing our offence we were rather taken aback at this summary conviction and sentence, and asked a European gentleman driving by, the reason for this demand. I thought that as a local resident he must be aware of any rule we may have been unconsciously guilty of a breach of; and also expected that as a gentleman he would help us. He, however, curtly told us that if we did not pay the penalty he would take us to the Havildar. (We have since learnt that he is a Garrison officer.) I agreed to be taken to the Havildar rather than submit to the impost not knowing what it was for. This non-commissioned officer was most dirtily dressed, and spoke to me very rudely indeed. On my asking him to show me any rule according to which the fine was imposed, he said that if I asked "any such thing he would put me in the guard-room?" Finding no other way out of the difficulty I paid the fine. As for the European we had accosted, he, we found afterwards, felt that he had been disrespectfully treated, because not having had the honour of his acquaintance we had not saluted him. There are two more rules in addition to that of the working of which we had the above-described experience, viz., within the Cantonment limits, it seems, you must not walk on the grass, nor touch the railings. I received the following reply to the letter I sent to the Cantonment Magistrate:

"No 231, dated 8th Sept. 1899.

FROM THE CANTONMENT MAGISTRATE, ABBOTTABAD.

TO THE HONOURABLE MEMBER FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUNJAB.

With reference to your letter, dated 28th August 1899, I have to inform you that the Cantonment Policeman states that you were warned not to sit on the bridge, the money paid as a fine cannot be refunded.

2. A complaint has been received by me of was of respect shown by you to an officer of the garrisons. If this is again reported to me, you will be forbidden to enter Cantonments again.

W. D. VILLIERS STUART, LIEUT., Cantonment Magistrate.

In Northern India the spectacle is frequently seen of the confusion of Indian gentlemen, coming in contact with Europeans in public streets. If the Indian happens to be driving, he alights from his buggy or carriage when he finds a European coming that way. It does not matter if the Indian is the foremost man in the place, one whom the Viceroy invites or honors; and the European only an Assistant Station-master or even a loafer. The Indian not only alights, but tries to hide himself, nay, conceal his buggy if he can, from the sight of the Englishman. If he finds that it is impossible to do so, he has no help but to stand to make his apologies as if he is the worst criminal in the universe.

But we fear the spectacle of Indians being rudely treated is not confined to Northern India. *The Hindu* to hand contains this:—

A correspondent writes to us from Udmallpet under date the 12th instant: I was one of the spectators who went out to see the grand reception accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey, the Collector and District Magistrate of Coimbatore, at the portals

of the town of Udmallpet; arches with word of "Welcome" in letters of gold were built at more than one spot commencing from a village five miles from Udmallpet, where the Tahsildar met Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey and garlanded them. When the Collector with his better-half reached the arch at the entrance, the Collector who was seated in his dog-cart with a long whip, caught sight of a Chetty and a Mussalman with shoes on standing on the roadside. The Collector's anger knew no bounds and directly he applied the whip to both these men who were within the reach of his long whip. Not satisfied with this he ordered the Tahsildar that he, (the Tahsildar) should see the Chetty fined Rs. fifty. This was a sight I had never before seen. Is a person to be denied the right of walking or standing with his shoes on the road-side when the Collector Sahib is seated on his gharry? I hope this will catch the attention of the authorities and they will take notice of this high-handed act of the Collector.

We dare say there is some exaggeration in the above account.

Now, we would beg to ask what Englishman is the more deserving of the respect of his countrymen,—one who takes it as an insult if he is not saluted by the Indians, or one who treats the Indian in terms of equality, at least with kindness? Does an Englishman serve himself, his nation, or the Empire, by being rude to the Indians? The Englishman who is rude commits unmitigated mischief. Suppose an Englishman comes across an Indian of leading position, and the former compels the latter to bow to him as if he is the master and the Indian his slave. The result would be this: The Indian would be emasculated, unmanned and demoralized, and the European would be brutalized. When an Indian sees that he is being rudely treated by a European, who is in no way his superior, simply because he is a European, he, the Indian, takes the insult very deeply, and not only he but his friends and countrymen also do so. For, human nature protests against such conduct,—against such display of brute force.

Englishmen here have not only to be fair and just, but even generous. For they owe a generous treatment to the Indians, when they have deprived the latter of their political existence. They owe it, besides, to themselves as a superior race; and they have to be good, courteous, just and generous for their own sake. It is a pity that Englishmen here do not see the folly, nay, the mischief, of treating the Indians with rudeness. It is a pity, Anglo-Indian papers do not do their duty in this respect. It is a pity, higher officials do not compel their countrymen to treat the Indians with sympathy and kindness.

DISMAL CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY AND A SERMON.

THREE years ago, India was in the grip of a dire famine, the like of which was perhaps never before witnessed in any part of the world. Thanks to the benevolence, energy, and organization of the rulers of the land, the calamity was tided over with as little loss of human life as was possible under the circumstances. According to the official estimate, six millions of people perished during the famine of 1877-78 when Southern India was visited by a famine. But the famine of 1896 was more wide-spread and virulent in its character than its predecessor, and yet, at the most, not more than two or three lakhs of people died of starvation on this occasion, and that specially in one province, owing to the apathy of its chief ruler in the beginning. All this speaks volumes in favour of the administration of India; but, yet, one is confronted with the question, why should India, in the whole world, have the distinction of being the only country where famine is a constant visitor?

It was Mr. William Digby who asked, the other day, the all-important question: "Why is it that alone in the British Empire India is continually in a famine-stricken condition?" Whoever has heard of a famine in England, Australia, or Canada? Nay, whoever has heard of a famine even in a poor, sterile rocky and savage country like Afghanistan, where internecine quarrels are the order of the day? A fortnight ago another terrible famine was apprehended in almost all the provinces of India. The prospect is now better; but the cessation of the autumn rains may again dispel all hopes of an average crop and bring about another famine and all its attendant horrors in the country. The Indian thus leads a most cheerless and precarious life from year's end to year's end.

But, let us drop the subject here, and preach a little sermon on the wickedness of the world generally. The struggle for existence is getting harder everywhere. In England, for instance, the poor classes find it very hard to make their existence tolerably endurable. But yet, there are many ways open to the lower classes in the ruling country to eke out their means of livelihood. The enormous shipping industry provides for a large number of poor Englishmen. Then, there are the Army and the Navy for them to enter. There are thousands of mills which give employment to millions of people in England. At the last extremity the English poor may proceed to Canada or Australia or to Africa to find a home for themselves.

But the lot of the Indian poor is incomparably harder. He can live only by agriculture. But he has no land. There is a scramble for culturable land in every part of India. He has availed himself of every inch of it he can utilize for the purpose of growing food for himself and paying rent to the Government. But yet he has not enough of it to make out a living. If after this, he is visited by continued drought or rain-fall, he finds himself utterly without resource to keep himself and his family alive.

The misery of the world is due to the decadence of moral principles. The world has been described as "the vale of tears." For the protection of His creatures, however, God Almighty has instilled into the heart of every man, a drop of kindly feeling for his fellows. This feeling ought to lead a human being to go into shares with a fellow, who is in want.

But what do we see in practice? The man, who has enough, will yet squeeze out of a fellow-being his miserable pittance, though the process will do him no good. The world is wide enough for all. It grows food more than sufficient for the human race. What a man needs for his happiness is good, wholesome and sufficient food; a quiet and peaceful life; culture of his mind and heart; and sympathy from his fellows. Such a mode of living would make every one happy, and it is within the reach of all to secure such happiness for themselves.

As a matter of fact, however, men live like dogs, biting every one who is their inferior in strength. They act like the dog in the manger. If they have enough, they will not part with what is superfluous for the benefit of those who are in need, but will want more. If they have more, the possession will increase their thirst. The happiness of man now consists in beggaring his neighbour. He cannot be happy without making a fellow-being miserable. He has based his happiness upon the misery of another.

God created man and made him so tender hearted that the sufferings of the meanest of His creatures have the effect of giving him pain. But this sacred feeling has been ruthlessly crushed and we actually see the spectacle of men levelling their guns at inoffensive neighbours and shooting them down; of nations desolating in this manner weaker nations and enslaving them, and all the while feeling no compunction or humiliation for their inhuman acts, but glorying in their wanton cruelties! Moral decadence has thus thrown everything topsy-turvy in this world, and, what is more, is dimming the right perception of men, who are day by day getting incapacitated to see the abyss of degradation to which they are being led. And is not now every good sentiment put down for "sick sentimentality"? Men are apt to be proud of the progress that the world has made; and to prove it, they point to their railways, telegraphs, telephones and so forth. But this progress of the world means the decadence of the moral faculties, and the misery of the vast myriads of mankind. There are twenty-five millions of men armed in camp in Europe. America also presents a similar spectacle. Surely this is not progress: Men will have to begin anew, and follow a quite different principle from "beggaring my neighbour" for the purpose of achieving real progress and enlightenment.

We are happy to be informed that reform of the Police is one of the twelve problems which is occupying the great mind of the Viceroy. The masses know the British Government by its Police, and, therefore, to make the British Government popular, the most important thing is to make the Police popular, which unfortunately it is not at present. Professor Dicey, in reviewing Mr. Morrison's book on "Imperial Rule in India," says, "There is in the nature of things no earthly reason to suppose that the rule of England can, at the present moment, be otherwise than unpopular in India." We do not agree in this view, and we say this from the bottom of our heart. That political feeling which leads a man to think that national freedom is the greatest of blessings is not very strong in this country. It was never strong. If it had been as strong as it is in other countries, India would never have been conquered and it would never have submitted to the sway of a conqueror. What the Indians want is a good rule; and they don't care much from what source it comes. We can go further and say this, that it does not require more than ordinary sacrifice to make British rule an object of real popular regard. The mischief is, British rule is made unpopular sometimes from a wanton disregard of the feelings of the people, sometimes from pure ignorance, and sometimes for the convenience and petty interests of the rulers.

THUS, for instance, the Government had no reason to hurt the people in the vital part, by introducing the measure, called the "Age of Consent Act." And why is the Police unpopular? It is because the Police exists here not so much for doing its legitimate duties, as for pandering to the passions and prejudices of the superiors. The legitimate function of the Police is to protect the innocent from the guilty, the weak from the strong, the law-abiding, peaceful subject from the lawless miscreant or tyrant. If the police had done all this, the members of the force would have found the people worshipping them. But they are disliked, not only by the guilty but by the innocent also. This shows that they do not perform their legitimate duties. Lord Curzon will earn the eternal gratitude of the people if he can make the Police popular in this country.

THE *Pioneer* is sorry that no one is to be punished for "the inhuman outrage" in which the West Kent Regiment at Rangoon was implicated. But yet he does not fail to shew that for this failure no one is to be particularly blamed. The outrage was committed in broad daylight, in an open place, in the presence of scores of witnesses. And in this outrage are implicated dozens of people. The whole country was moved; nay, the Viceroy himself, a very strong ruler, was also led to take keen interest in the matter. And yet the offenders go unpunished! Does not this case shew that it is difficult, in this country, to bring a European offender to justice? Now, let it be borne in mind that in this case the fight is not between the "native" and the "white"; it is a fight between lawless,—what shall we call them?—soldiers and the Government, with the Viceroy leading the trial. But either the jury will acquit, or somebody will mismanage the case in the beginning, or others will not come forward to depose against their countrymen. Here, in this case, it is not race-feeling, but European lawlessness, that has scored against the almighty Government. The result of this trial is likely to be disastrous. Here was a conclusion tried between lawless Europeans and the Government, and the latter was worsted! What will now prevent lawless Europeans doing whatever they like?

LIEUTENANT STUART, Station Staff Officer and Quarter Master, Abbottabad, caned Bhai Kuar Sing, probably from an exuberance of animal life. Kuar Sing, thereupon, filed a complaint before the Cantonment Magistrate, who seeing marks of the assault on the person of the complainant, was satisfied as to the truth of the complaint. The Magistrate advised compromise, and with that view, sent the complainant to Col Barret, the superior officer of Lieutenant Stuart, with a letter. The Colonel sent the complainant to the house of the accused to get his apology. There did the complainant go, but the accused was not in. He was, however, found out at last, and spoke kindly to the complainant and paid him Rs. 50 as compensation. Of course, there is some humor in the arrangement which the Magistrate made in sending the complainant to the accused, instead of sending the accused to the complainant, to receive his apology.

But we have no desire to quarrel over his small matter. Lieutenant Stuart had to pay Rs. 50, and we dare say, he will not again cane a native in a hurry. We have, however, no desire to take any unfair view of the whole affair. Lieutenant Stuart lost his temper, for which we don't blame him at all. He is an Englishman, a young man, and a British Officer; and he is in India. To lose temper under these circumstances is an indulgence to which therefore he has every right. What we, however, regret is that he made the complainant to go to the law court. As an Englishman, he ought to have sobered down immediately after he had committed the assault, and sent for the man, paid him a few Rupees and apologized to him. If he had acted in that way, he would have acted the part of an Englishman in India to perfection. We have no malice against Englishmen who lose temper. Their very impulsiveness proves them to be of warm heart. Such a man is never dangerous. Infinitesimally worse is the cool, calculating man who never loses his temper; and, on the other hand, never relinquishes an inch of ground. We must say, the complainant in this case did well in accepting the compromise.

SAYS our London correspondent bursting with pleasure:—

This will be a memorable year for the youth of India. Two youngmen, drawn from their ranks, have this year beaten the youth of Britain on fields where hitherto they have been supreme. Mr. Paranjpye has carried off the greatest prize of British University life, and now Prince Ranjitsingh has made a record in the great national game of cricket that is without rival in its history.

If England has won India, this is the way of India winning England. The national game of England is cricket; in that game England has always held the supreme place. For an Indian now to go to that country and beat its champion and make a record which is without rival in history, is the best argument to demolish the theory that God made the White man, and Satan, the Indians. In the same manner Cambridge is the place where the intellect of Englishmen is tested. For an Indian to go there and take the place by assault is also a convincing proof that India is not "a savage" country, though we don't mean by this to utter "the grossest falsehood" that Lord George Hamilton had ever said that it was. The most difficult of examinations in England is that of the Indian Civil Service. There Atul Chandra obtained the first place. All these go to prove that it is gross injustice to deprive the Indians of privileges which other British subjects enjoy. Dr. Mullick is making his mark in England and he has already been able to secure the friendship of a large number of Englishmen, some of whom are the most prominent members of the English society.

THE case of Babu Jotindra Nath Roy, who has, for the second time, passed the Civil Service Examination, shows the insuperable difficulties that lie in the way of Indians entering that service. Last year he successfully passed this most difficult of all English examinations with some distinction, but was rejected under circumstances, which are related in some detail in another column. Imagine the gross wrong done to this candidate. Although rejected at the medical examination in the beginning, he was afterwards recommended by some of the most distinguished medical authorities in England as quite fit for employment within twelve months. He therefore prayed to the Secretary of State for India to be exempted, but the prayer was not granted; and he had thus to pass through the ordeal again. Fortunately for him he has come out successful; but he might have failed as well, and then his condition might better be imagined than described. In order to enter the superior service of their own country, Indians have not only to go to a foreign country, ten thousand miles distant from their motherland, and spend thousands of Rupees to live there and prosecute their studies, but they must pass examinations in the English language and compete with the best English youths. Add to this the new obstacle, namely, that they may be considered physically unfit and subjected to a second examination. Is there a country in the whole world where its people have to go through so many difficulties to enter their Civil Service?

THE Dreyfus case was brought to a satisfactory termination by a clever manoeuvre. He ought to have been condemned for the sake of those who had condemned him without inquiry. These men were too great to be humiliated. So Dreyfus was sentenced to a heavy punishment. But then he was innocent, at least his punishment created a wide-spread scandal. And so he was pardoned. Now, we too have a petty Dreyfus case here in India. We allude to the case of the Natu brothers. Cannot our good Viceroy extend his clemency to them and procure them absolute release by a pardon? Such an arrangement will meet the wish of every one.

If every European in this country were to claim homage from the people of India, it would be very difficult for the latter to live here in peace. It was, we believe, Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Bogra, who insulted a Sankirtan party of Hindu gentlemen, because their music did not please his ears. He was, however, the Magistrate—the lord of the district,—and had thus his special privileges. But the manner in which an ordinary European gentleman behaved last Friday on the Strand Road near the Mint was simply astounding. If his conduct did not bring about a serious riot, it was due to the gentle and law-abiding nature of the Hindus. Some people of Jorabagan were, after worshipping a Thakur, carrying it with considerable pomp to the Ganges side, for the purpose of immersing it in the river, according to the religious customs of the country. They had not only secured the necessary police escort for the procession, but were being escorted by a number of policemen. They had thus taken every precaution to have the ceremony performed without a hitch. A European gentleman and a lady, however, happened to pass by in a carriage, when their horse grew somewhat unmanageable at the sound of the music which accompanied the procession. The policemen immediately stopped the music, but the blood of the European gentleman was up, and he at once got down from his carriage, a whole-bone whip in hand, and applied it vigorously upon the person of every man he came across. In this way he lashed to his

heart's content, not only the processionists but also some passers-by who had no connection with the Thakur. The bearers who carried the Thakur on their shoulders dropped it and fled in terror; and so did the sight-seers. Fortunately it was the Hindus who were concerned in the matter. For, it might have proved a serious affair, if the religious susceptibilities of the Mussalmans were thus hurt. And may we enquire, why did the European gentleman behave in this wanton manner? There is no doubt of it that, almost every European in India is coming to entertain the notion that he is one of the masters of the Empire, and that he can do anything he likes with the people of this country. Both in the interests of the rulers and the ruled, such a dangerous notion should be rooted out from every European mind. The Police Commissioner ought to make an enquiry into the matter and publish the result for the information of the public.

IN reply to a question in the Bombay Legislative Council, the Local Government was pleased to state that the property of the Natus in the Native State of Sangli had been attached by the State authorities, who had acted without any orders from the British Government. The *Mahratta* of the 17th instant has, however, published the correspondence which passed between the Natus and the Sangli State on the subject, and which would lead to a different state of things. In his reply, dated the 28th July, 1898, to a Yadi by the elder Natu, the then State Karbhari clearly said that "the house was attached by the order of the *Sirkar*." Again, in his reply dated the 17th May 1899, the State Karbhari, Mr. L. R. Golwalker, informed the elder Natus that "his estate was attached by the Sangli State under an order of the Political Agent for Kolhapur and the Carnatic" who acted in compliance with a request by the Collector of Poona. In the same Yadi the State Karbhari has used the word "Huzur" to designate the Sangli State authority in contradistinction to the word "Sirkar" intended to designate the British Government; and the distinction, made by the Sangli Karbhari is borne out by the facts stated. The Bombay Government cuts an unenviable figure whenever it has to deal with the Natus. When the Natus are the source of so much humiliation the Bombay authorities should get rid of them without a moment's delay. The Government is in the position of the serpent which can neither swallow the mole it has seized nor throw it out, in spite of its unbearable stench.

IN Mysore, they put down sedition in a very simple and harmless way. A few years ago, the editor of a vernacular paper in Mysore wrote something in his paper which was considered seditious against the Maharaja. He was put on his trial and punished. At the time of the trial, the printing materials were seized and taken possession of by the Police. Four years have elapsed since then, and the editor has not only passed through his ordeal but is now in the good graces of the Government. But all the same, the press materials have not yet been returned to the owner and are still in the Police Malkhana. The British Government might profit by the example of the Mysore State and take out the fangs of sedition-mongers in British India without creating any stir in the country.

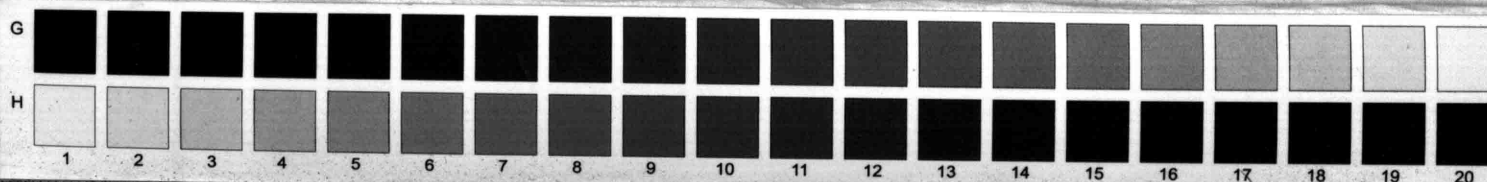
WE are glad to learn from *Capital* that the Government of Bengal have at last determined to legislate on the question of a day of rest for jute mill assistants. We are surprised to learn that they are given no holiday and are made to work all the week without cessation. It seems that the mill agents have often promised to Government that they would give the required holiday to the assistants but, have failed to keep their word. Mr. Slack, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, has, therefore, sent intimation to the members of the Jute Manufacturers' Association that the Government have made up their mind to legislate on the subject. *Capital* suggests that jute mills should close at 3 o'clock on Saturdays, and that the assistants should have an absolute holiday on Sundays, unless under exceptional circumstances. Our contemporary further suggests, very properly, that legislation cannot be confined to jute mills only.

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON'S appeal to Lord Salisbury on the Boer question, published in another column, is a most powerful one. His arguments are unanswerable; and the position he takes is unassailable. The whole world, as Mr. Harrison says, will hold the Marquis of Salisbury responsible for the war and its horrors, if one is really declared against the Boer Republic. Judging from the war preparations, it seems pretty clear that the appeal has produced no effect upon his Lordship. Indeed, war seems inevitable, unless England backs out. One thing is certain. A large number of Englishmen are against the war, but they are not in power, and their opposition, therefore, means very little. We, however, contemplate with fear and trembling the prospects of the forthcoming war. For, it means further drain upon India, and this means the starvation of the millions who inhabit this country.

HERE is a further development of the Bhai Kuar Sing case, which we have noticed elsewhere. The *Lahore Tribune* to hand contains the following memorial to the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief over the signature of the Sikh priest:—

"I most humbly and respectfully beg to submit this humble petition for your Excellency's perusal, consideration and orders.

"I am the religious priest of the Sikhs at Haripur. I came here to see a relative of mine. On Monday, the 11th September 1899, at about 6 P. M. I went out for a walk and was passing on the road near the church in Abbottabad Cantonments. Meanwhile Lt. W. D. Villiers Stuart, Station Staff Officer and Quarter Master, 15th Gurkhas, Abbottabad, passed by me. As my attention was not much drawn towards him, I failed to salute him. That officer ordered the Gurkha sentry on duty to arrest me and take me to the Station Staff Office. I, although innocent, accompanied the sentry through fear. When I reached the office, that officer got down from his carriage and commenced to beat me severely with a cane because I did not salute him. Then he ordered me to salute him. I complied with his orders and came away. I was laid up with fever for four days. When fever left me on the 15th September 1899, I reported the matter at the Police station. On the same date I got a complaint written. On the 16th September 1899, I filed a complaint under Sections 342-323, Indian Penal Code, in the Court of Mr. W. R. H. Merck, C. S. I., District Magistrate, Abbottabad. That



officer kindly examined the cane marks on my body and wrote a letter to Colonel Barret, the Officer Commanding the 15th Gurkhas, and sent me with his order to that officer. Colonel Barret kindly wrote a letter and sent me to Lt. Stuart. Lt. Stuart apologized and gave me Rs. 50 as compensation. As I had neither any personal grudge and enmity nor spite against him, therefore I was satisfied. On 16th September 1899 I filed another application withdrawing my first application and soliciting the District Magistrate's favour to file the papers. Although through the kindness of Mr. W. R. H. Merk, C. S. I., the District Magistrate, and Colonel Barret, Officer Commanding the 15th Gurkhas, the matter has amicably been settled, but I beg to venture to take the liberty of bringing this matter to your Excellency's kind notice; because hundreds of poor illiterate and ignorant people pass through Canteons, as the Grand Trunk Road passes through it, many of them fail to salute the officers through ignorance. I therefore, humbly solicit your Excellency's favour of issuing orders that no European officer should thrash any person not saluting him, and for this act of favour I shall ever pray etc.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,
KUNAR SINGH, SON OF BHAI RATTAN SINGH,
Care of Bhai Dyal Singh.

Abbottabad, Sept. 18.
It was Jesus Christ, the *Avatar* of the Christians, who inculcated the divine doctrine that when you were struck on your left cheek you should turn your right one to be similarly struck. It was, however, a Sikh priest, and not a disciple of Jesus Christ—for, we take it, that Lieutenant Stuart is a Christian—who followed the above precept. Just fancy the situation. The assault was not the result of sudden provocation. Lieutenant Stuart was not entitled to a salam from an Indian by birth-right. Yet, being a member of the ruling race, he might have complained if the Sikh priest had deliberately withheld his salute when asked to offer it to the Lieutenant. But it appears, Kuar Singh had not the slightest notion that a salam was due from him and that he had offended Lieutenant Stuart by not doing that duty. He innocently allowed himself to be arrested by the Gurkha sentry and conducted to the Station Staff office. To his horror, however, he found the Officer coming down from his carriage, and applying his cane vigorously upon his person. If the officer had beat the priest the moment the latter had failed to salute him, he might have had some excuse. But his act was a deliberate and premeditated one. He caused the poor man to be arrested and brought before him, and then he lashed him. The severe nature of the assault can be judged from the fact that the victim of the officer was laid up with fever for four days. And all this the unfortunate man suffered, simply because, out of pure ignorance, he had failed to salute Lieutenant Stuart. But if Lieutenant Stuart was unreasonable, not less unreasonable was the District Magistrate of Abbottabad. He ought to have issued process and tried the case on its merits. But what he did was to send the complainant, who had sought redress from him, to the very person who had treated him so outrageously, for the purpose of an amicable settlement! In the whole world, it is a Magistrate in India alone who has the privilege of adopting such a procedure. Of course, in the end, Lieutenant Stuart behaved like a gentleman; but that does not condone his act of caning an innocent man severely simply because the latter did not salute him. There is a vein of quiet satire in the request of the wronged priest which, we doubt not, will go straight to the heart of every Englishman. He prays to His Excellency to issue an order to the effect that no native of India be thrashed by an officer for not saluting him! Surely, the Viceroy will not thank Lieutenant Stuart when, in disposing of the memorial, His Excellency will come across this request of the memorialist. We recommend the example of Bhai Kuar Singh to all our countrymen. If any of them happen to be thrashed by a European officer, let him submit to the beating without a protest and then send a memorial to the Viceroy praying that an order prohibiting officers to beat people in that way be promulgated. A few such memorials will, no doubt, move our good Viceroy to take some energetic steps in this direction.

OUR Dacca correspondent writes about the end of the Moonshingunge case:—
The sensational case of M. Fazal Karim vs. Kali Prasanna Bose and another has been at last withdrawn, on the latter submitting an apology to the District Magistrate to the effect, that on subsequent inquiries he has now come to learn that the informations, on which the complaint of theft was lodged, were incorrect, and do not justify a criminal charge. Our Commissioner, Mr. Savage and our Magistrate Mr. Rankin both deserve thanks for their kindly interference in saving poor Kali Prasanna from further worry. Our new Government pleader, aboo Iswar Chandra Ghose, acted as the mediator, and it is but for his active intervention that the matter has ended so smoothly. The sooner the memory of this nasty affair is lost, the better.
The case ought to have been withdrawn long ago, and the poor Muktear saved from the untold sufferings to which he was subjected, through the over-zeal of the local officials. Atterly the Government itself was dragged to the matter, and a sensational character as given to the case. It was a petty dispute between a Mussalman Deputy Magistrate and Muktear of his Court. If they had been left one they would almost immediately have come to an amicable settlement, and no body could have heard of the case. But, as Mr. Woodroffe remarked in connection with this case, "Move your finger against even the son of an official, and the whole machinery of Government would be put in motion to defend him!" The resources of the Government were placed at the disposal of the Deputy Magistrate to try conclusions with Muktear. The fight was thus a most unequal one—it was actually a fight between a pigmy and the giant. If Babu Kali Prasanna had been supported by public funds, he would have been prepared to go to the bitter end, and thus no help but to offer an apology and make up the matter. In justice to Maulvi Fazal Karim, we must say, that the charge of theft, brought against him, was absurd on its face. But, for this, the servant of Babu Kali Prasanna, and not Babu Kali Prasanna himself, was to blame. Our complaint with regard to the Moonshingunge case is that hundreds of people submitted a petition, giving serious and specific charges against Maulvi Fazal Karim, the Government should have made a fair enquiry into the matter, and then that official an opportunity to clear his character. By refusing the reasonable prayer of

the petitioners for an enquiry, the Government has neither served the cause of the Maulvi nor enhanced its own reputation for an impartial administration of justice. On the other hand, the attitude of the Government has only emphasised the impression upon the public mind that, some at least of the allegations against the Maulvi were correct, and that an enquiry was not therefore instituted.
If the officials here are invested with almost absolute powers, it is understood that they should exercise them with caution and judgment. Here is an instance to show with what a light heart some officials play with the lives of Indians in the name of justice. One Chinna Tippan was put on his trial before the Sessions Judge of North Arcot on a charge of murder. The story of the prosecution was that, failing to obtain the consent of a woman to gratify his lust, accused murdered her in a fit of anger. The defence version, was that accused was speaking with the deceased, who was in the keeping of one Cherigadu, when the latter struck her the fatal blow out of jealousy. As the prosecution evidence was weak, the proper course for the Sessions Judge was to discharge the defendant. But not only did he not do it, but he passed the capital sentence upon him. The Hon'ble Judges of the High Court were not, however, so sure of the guilt of the accused and acquitted him. We hope that the result of this case will have a salutary effect upon the Sessions Judge of North Arcot.
THE case against Mr. P. Gupta, Editor, "Punjab Times," has advanced one step further. It will be remembered that Mr. Gupta applied to H. E. the Viceroy for the transfer of his case from the Rawalpindi Court. In reply he has been ordered to submit his papers through the local Government. In the meantime, Mr. Gupta moved the Chief Court for a transfer. A rule has been granted and will come up before a Full Bench after the vacation.
MADRAS is a benighted province in more than one sense. This time the complaint is about the personnel of its judiciary. The *Hindu* is very loud in its condemnation of the judicial capacity of District Judges. They do not, says our contemporary, except in very exceptional cases, receive any sort of training which would enable them to discharge their responsible duties. Collectors and Sub-Collectors with no very great experience in civil matters, are often appointed District Judges. And the result is that their actions shake the confidence of the public in the administration of justice. Here is an instance, furnished by the *Hindu* of the idiosyncrasy of one of the District Judges:—One of our District Judges has recently caused to be put up, in a conspicuous part of the Court-house, a notice requiring Pleaders appearing in cases before him to furnish the Court in every individual case, and on the date previous to that fixed for its hearing, a written list of authorities on which they intend to rely in the course of their arguments. But the above is not the only instance. The following also appears in the "Hindu": "In a case committed by a Magistrate to the Sessions, a well-built woman, who looked the age she gave, had married a second husband while she continued to be wife of the complainant who alleged he was her first husband. The District Judge looked at the complainant and at the accused, put the complainant into the box and asked him to shout once, twice, thrice. The District Judge remarked that the complainant's voice was not broken, and that he could not have possibly married the accused. In another case before a District Judge, an accused who had been convicted by a Magistrate of the offence of perjury in having made two contradictory statements on oath, had appealed against his conviction. It would appear, (it is immaterial whether the assumption is well or ill-founded), that a guilty person had escaped punishment under the Penal Code in consequence of the contradictory statements made by this accused. Under these circumstances the District Judge, to whom this accused presented his appeal against his conviction by the Magistrate, passed the following order:—"Appeal admitted. But as to appellant's action, whether criminal or not, it was a serious blunder. It has caused apparently the acquittal of a guilty person. I will not hear the appeal until he produces a certificate from Mr. — that he has petitioned for an appeal by Government against the acquittal of the guilty person or persons, whom appellant's stupidity caused to escape conviction and unpunished. (Sd)—, Sessions Judge."

THE CYCLONE.
THE reports to hand from various districts enable us roughly to trace the track of the storm-cloud which has wrought so much havoc in Bengal. Gathering at the head of the Bay, the storm moved almost due north, giving heavy rain at Calcutta and all along the line through Dinajpur, Rangpur and Jalpaiguri, and falling in its greatest fury on Darjeeling. Simultaneously with the storm moving north another one appears to have gathered in the vicinity of Rungpur and passed westward through Purnea to Monghyr. Up to a late hour on Tuesday the Bengal Government reports, which are due every Monday, from the districts of Darjeeling, Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Rangpur and Purnea. There is, therefore, reason to fear that the storm has caused floods and interrupted communications in all the districts named.
AT DARJEELING.
At Darjeeling the cyclone found a valuable colleague in earth quakes and the two together brought disaster the extent of which has not yet been fully estimated.
A Darjeeling correspondent writes: Sunday's disaster was the most terrible calamity that has ever happened. Scores of natives were killed in the district, and several Europeans. A great portion of the town is a wreck. The damage done is enormous. Heavy rain began on Friday, accompanied by heavy wind, and lasted till Monday morning. A great part of the Diocesan Girls' School was wrecked, but no lives were lost. A godown of the Arcadia School was smashed in, and the mistress being alarmed ordered the children to Ida an upper

ridge. While the rain was coming down in torrents, the poor children had to scramble up the hill, being beaten back at every step by the masses of earth falling down.
Six children of the Rev. Mr. Lea were living at Mall Villas, No. 2, the eldest being a girl of about seventeen. The body of the eldest girl has been recovered, and one of the boys was dug out alive, but he lies at the Eden Sanatorium in a precarious state. The parents were in Calcutta. The bodies of the other four children were not recovered. Scenes of the most heart-rending description were witnessed. Dead bodies were carried past the Chowrasta all Monday. In many houses nothing remains. The roads are impassable, several gaps are hundreds of yards wide. The Godowns of Rockingham School have been smashed, but the house is safe. The Club, Woodlands Hotel, and many houses are damaged, and heavy slips have occurred on the hill of Ida Villa. Six Native Christians were lost in a small house belonging to the Convent. The Convent itself is safe. Hundreds of acres of tea have been swept away, and scores of garden coolies killed. Nearly all the bridges are gone. The children from the Diocesan Girls' School are being sheltered at the Shrubbery, and those from Arcadia at the Scotch Kirk Manse.
Every house is crammed. The roads are strewn with odds and ends of all sorts. The destruction is frightful.
Shops were closed on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Cox, the wife of the D. S. P., with her family, escaped just before their house was swept completely away. The servants were all buried alive. Eleven bodies were dug out to-day. Mr. Cox is at Kurseong. Of all their belongings only 23 fowls have been left unhurt.
Dr. Ada Neibel's place is a complete wreck but the inmates are safe.
Soldiers are still clearing the debris.
The water pipes of the Darjeeling Water Works have been broken, and drinking water is scarce. The Jhoras are running liquid mud. The Upper and Lower Pugla Jhoras are badly breached.
The Bhutia bazaar has been swept away. The loss of native life cannot be estimated. The Municipal loss is estimated at two lakhs at the lowest computation. One gentleman has lost one lakh, another sixty thousand, and so on.
On Tuesday His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal received the following telegram from His Excellency Lord Curzon:—"Viceroy deeply regrets to hear of shocking disaster at Darjeeling and sacrifice of so many European and Native lives.
"He tenders his commiseration with your Government on the calamity which has overtaken it, and his sincere condolences with the families and friends of all the poor people who have lost their lives."
His Honor transmitted the above message to Mr. Earle, the Deputy Commissioner at Darjeeling, at the same time expressing his own personal feelings of grief at the sad catastrophe, and of sympathy with the bereaved relatives and friends.
We understand, says the *Englishman*, that immediate steps were taken by the Government to draft extra engineers to the Darjeeling district, and prompt measures have been taken to cope with the situation. Enquiries have been set on foot with a view to obtaining information that will enable the Government to judge of the necessity or otherwise of arranging for supplying relief to the sufferers by the disaster. If it is considered needful most likely a Committee, chiefly of residents, will be formed, such as was constituted after the earthquake, who will undertake the task of administering such assistance as the necessities of the case demand.
The following telegrams were received at Belvedere on Tuesday:—"The upper road from Kurseong to Darjeeling is impassable. The cart road is expected to be opened by Sunday."
"The lower section of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway line has been blocked, for eight or four days at the outside."
"The water and electric supply of Darjeeling has been wrecked and many roads have gone. The bodies of many natives have been recovered by search parties."
"Telegraph wires have been broken. The Managing Agent of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway has asked the Locomotive Superintendent of Works to wire direct about the lower section. The damage in Darjeeling is heavy."
"The line has been blocked for at least two months between Darjeeling and Sonada. No news as yet from Lower sections."
A great storm of wind and rain with a little thunder raged from 4 P. M. on Sunday night to 3 A. M. on Monday morning. Serious damage has been done all over the district to houses and tea-gardens. Great loss of life has occurred amongst tea-garden coolies. No Europeans are killed. Railway communication from Kurseong to Darjeeling is stopped, and the telegraph wires damaged. No communication has been established with Darjeeling for 12 hours. A great slip occurred from below St. Mary's scholastic establishment, and carried away the railway bridge and blocked the cart road. The Singell Tea Estate turbine was damaged, and the water-pipes destroyed. At St. Margaret's Hope Tea Estate, at Sonada, the coolie-lines were buried, but the loss of life is not known. One hundred acres of tea were carried away, and the tea-house destroyed. The Manager's house was damaged. A great slip occurred at Pugla Jhora above Tindharia. Passengers got out here and walk to Giddapahar, and are then conveyed in trucks to Kurseong. Trees are blown down and roofs from the out-houses blown off. The Pani-ghata suspension-bridge over the Balasund river has disappeared, and passengers by the up-mail arrived at 8.30 P. M. The weather to-day is beautiful. The Post Office worked day and night, and the mails were sent to Darjeeling by runners. The Postal Superintendent has arranged a runner service until communication by rail is restored. The mails were sent to Darjeeling at 10 P. M. last night by runners, and arrived safely at 8 A. M. this morning. The Kurseong Telegraph Office is open all night, but nothing but urgent messages are taken.
The following telegram from the General Manager of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway was received by the Agents of the Railway, Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot and Co. on Tuesday:—"At present there exists communication by train from Siliguri to Ghyabari with one transshipment from Ghyabari to Ciddapahar by the short cut road, and from Giddapahar to Kurseong by train. Line blocked from Kurseong to Darjeeling; to restore communication between Kurseong and Ghyoom will probably take three weeks, and between Ghyoom and Darjeeling approximately two months."

The authorities of the Eastern Bengal State Railway at Sealdah have received telegraphic communication from the Agent and Manager of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway to stop all booking of passengers and goods from Calcutta and Darjeeling owing to the heavy landslips all along the line. The severe storm and deluge of rain is said to have lasted for about thirty hours, the line being breached in several places between the stations of Tindharia and Darjeeling. Passengers have had to walk a portion of the distance between these stations (31 1/4 miles) and to trolly down to catch the Eastern Bengal State Railway service at Siliguri. In consequence of this breach, the Eastern Bengal State Railway were not able to book passengers or goods from Sealdah to the hills on Tuesday, and will not be in a position to do so till the line is again put in working order. Passengers and goods are only booked as far as Siliguri from the Sealdah Terminus, and this arrangement will be adhered to until further notice. The mail trains on the Eastern Bengal State Railway have been running much behind time since Monday, owing to the long wait at Siliguri for the conveyance of passengers to Calcutta. In consequence of the non-booking of passengers and goods from Calcutta to Darjeeling direct, the Darjeeling mail was three hours late in leaving Siliguri on Tuesday for Calcutta, but pulled up an hour on the journey, and arrived at the Sealdah Terminus two hours behind time. It is curious to note, that not a single first or second-class passenger came on by the mail to Calcutta, and those passengers who had left Calcutta for the hills the day previous, had to return by the ordinary trains on Tuesday. The damages on the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway are not confined to only one Section of the line, for the two Pugla Jhora waterfalls between Tindharia and Kurseong have washed away the line completely, and it will take fully 2-3 months before repairs can be properly attended to and passenger traffic restored. This is not the first time that these water-falls have given the Engineering Department of the line trouble during the rains, for annually at this season the road at this particular place has been more or less damaged by the rains. But from enquiries made, our representative has been informed that it has never before been so severe as on this occasion. Arrangements are being made by the authorities for the transshipment of the passengers over this portion of the line, and for the mails to be carried over. The damages are reported to be caused more by the heavy rains here, than by any landslip. Telegraphic communication, which was interrupted by the severity of the storm on Monday, has been restored, and there is no longer any delay in messages being despatched, or received, as the case may be. Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot and Co., the local Agents of the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway, informed our reporter, when he called at their offices on Tuesday, that the line was blocked between Sonada and Darjeeling by heavy landslips, due to the deluge of rain which had fallen persistently for hours. The landslips have never known to be so heavy at this point, and it is not expected that the debris will be removed, for some time yet. Happily no passenger or goods train was passing up or down the line at the time, for the casualties in that case would have been great, and the damages to rolling-stock extensive. The officials of the Railway have gone to the scenes of the accidents, and every effort is being made by the Railway authorities to put the road in thorough repair for the resumption of passenger traffic.

HEAVY RAIN IN CHOTA NAGPUR.
A Purulia correspondent writes to the *Englishman*:—"During the night of the 22nd and day of the 23rd instant it rained here almost continuously, 11.92 inches being registered during the 24 hours. Tanks are overflowing and the road of the Sahib-band, a sheet of water now of some 50 or 60 acres, had to be cut for safety. Bungalows with leaky roofs have suffered severely. A high cyclonic wind is still blowing to-day (Sunday) but no more rain has fallen. All fear of a famine in these parts is now at an end."

IN NORTHERN BENGAL.
Violently cyclonic weather seems to have been prevalent on Saturday and Sunday over the whole of Northern Bengal.
Englishman's Bhagulpur correspondent writes:—"During the whole of Saturday night there has been a violent cyclone with very heavy rain at Bhagulpur. The country around is flooded and trees and houses have been blown down in many places by the violence of the storm."
To A. M. Sunday—Still pouring rain, with storm.
Later the same correspondent writes:—"The cyclone of Saturday night and Sunday, which lasted about 30 hours, has done much damage to trees and houses in Bhagulpur town and district. It is reported by the police that two villages on the Banka road have been washed away. In the station trees have suffered chiefly in the Civil Surgeon's house no less than 28 fine tall trees have fallen, 26 more in the club compound, and equal destruction in the compounds of the Judge and Collector. In all there have been 114 inches of rain in the two days."

Monghyr correspondent writes:—"The Loop Mail due at Jamalpur at 2.40 A. M. did not come in before mid-day; '17 Up Mixed,' due at Jamalpur at 17.51, was detained at the break near Goga and unable to proceed. The water rushed over the rails and the engine of a goods train sank near Goga, causing a serious detention. Coolies were sent down by the Mail train at midnight to help. On the line near Pakour there was a slip, but doubtless the Railway Company will soon repair these bad bits."

Near Jamui the trains had to go at "Caution speed on the Chord line."
The heavy and continuous rain appears to have been below Monghyr; Mokameh and Muzaffarpur had heavy showers.
We are now having bright sunshine.
A correspondent writes from Sahibgunge on Monday: There was a cyclone last night. About one hundred trees were blown down. No damage was done to the pucca bungalows. A dozen huts were blown away, and 250 cattle were washed away while grazing on the bank of the Ganges. Dead cattle are still found floating in the Ganges. The railway bridge between Ghogha and Sabun is wrecked. All post traffic is diverted to the chord line. No fatalities have been reported yet."

G
H
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
cm.

Calcutta and Mofussil.

LORD GAURANGA

OR
SALVATION.

SHISHIR KUMAR GHOSE.

VOLS. I AND II.

The price of each Volume is—

PAPER COVER 1-12

CLOTH BOUND 2-4

Postage extra.

To be had at the Patrika Office Calcutta.

PLAQUE IN CALCUTTA.—On Sunday there were 4 cases and 4 deaths distributed as follows:—Ward No. 4, 1 case and 1 death; Ward No. 6, 1 and 1; Ward No. 7, 1 and 1; Ward No. 24, 1 and 1. The total number of deaths from all causes was 57 as against 55, the average of the previous five years.

AN EASTERN FRONTIER EXPEDITION.—It is said that a small expedition will start in November next against the Mishmis, who have recently caused a good deal of annoyance by raiding on the Assam frontier. The force will, we believe, consist of about 1,000 men, composed of the 42nd and 44th Gurkhas, 10th Bengal Infantry, half a company of Sappers, and the Military Police, under command of Colonel Molesworth, 44th Gurkhas.

THE PORT TRUST.—Mr. Jas. Turner, of Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Co., has been elected a representative of the Chamber on the Calcutta Port Trust, in place of Mr. J. G. Dickson, of Messrs. Gladstone, Wyllie and Co., resigned.

A BRANCH LINE.—A short branch line will be constructed from the Bhagalpore Railway Station to Barari Ghat where a ferry will connect the Loop Line of the E. I. R. with the Assam-Bihar Railway now under construction.

"BRAVO" 28th.—After the performance of the well-known religious piece, *Sati-ki-Kalankini*, was over, a Local Sketch, "Bravo! 28th," was staged at the Star, on Saturday last, in the presence of a full house. It was intended to eulogise the action of those Municipal Commissioners who have resigned their seats on the board. The sketch also delineated what the inevitable results of the proposed measure would be. The conductors, no doubt, deserve well of the public for the treat they have supplied.

A POSTAL RULE.—At present the weight of postal parcel for Manipur is specially restricted to 200 tolas; but the Post Office authorities intimate that on and after the 1st proximo, this restriction will be removed, and that until further notice, parcels up to the ordinary limit of weight will be accepted for transmission by post to the Manipur. It is also notified that a stock of the 2½ anna embossed envelope for foreign correspondence has been overprinted with the value of "one-anna," so that it may be used for the despatch of correspondence to the United Kingdom and the British possessions which have adopted the penny postage scheme. These envelopes are now available for sale to the public.

INVENTIONS AND DESIGNS.—Applications in respect of the undermentioned inventions have been filed, Badische Anilin and Soda of Ludwigshafen-on-Rhine, in the German Empire, for improvements in the manufacture of sulphuric anhydride apparatus for use therein; Arthur Clayton Dulcken, assistant to Messrs. Ralli Brothers, merchants of Calcutta, of 7-2, Theatre-road, Calcutta, a new and improved method or process and also its machine for producing "yellow" or "boiled rice" commonly known as "shidha rice" and also chryra rice from paddy, Frank William Hornish, mechanical engineer, and Albert Charles Clark, manufacturer, both of 61, State-street, Chicago, Cook county, Illinois, U.S.A., improvement in mechanical boiler cleaners; Joseph Vofft, manufacturer, of Massevaux, Alsace, Germany, improvements in apparatus for deep boring; William Mather, engineer, of Salford ironworks, Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, England, improvements in the treatment of textile materials with liquids, vapours or gases and apparatus for that purpose; William Mather, engineer, of Salford ironworks, Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, England, a process and apparatus for continuous bleaching of fabrics in open condition; Adolphe Isidore Van Vriesland, engineer, of 78, Sarphatistraat, Amsterdam, Netherlands, improvements in and relating to carburetted apparatus; and Adolphe Isidore Van Vriesland, engineer, of 78, Sarphatistraat, Amsterdam, Netherlands, a process for producing a constant mixture of air and carburetted-hydrogen vapours and apparatus therefor.

THE HEALTH OF CALCUTTA.—The total number of deaths registered in Urban Calcutta, during the week ending 16th September was 226, against 257 and 219 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 27. There was one death from cholera, against two and three in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by four. There were 33 deaths from plague, against 24 and 35 in the two preceding weeks. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week, against one in the previous week. There were four deaths from tetanus, against five in the previous week. The mortality from fever and bowel-complaints amounted to 40 and 27, respectively, against 55 and 36 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 25.2 per mille per annum, against 25.6, the mean of the last five years. The total number of deaths registered in Suburban Calcutta during the same week was 145, against 155 and 162 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 20. There was one death from cholera, against two and one in the two preceding weeks; the number is equal to the average of the past quinquennium by nil. There were 13 deaths from plague, against 17 and 19 in the two preceding weeks. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. There were three deaths from tetanus against nil in the previous week. The mortality from fever and bowel-complaints amounted to 37 and 16 respectively, against 30 and 24 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 35.1 per mille per annum, against 34.9 the mean of the last five years. The general death-rate of the combined area is equal to 28.4

AN ILLNESS.—We are sorry to learn Mr. Rajani Nath Roy, Deputy Assistant-General, is laid up with a stroke of paralysis.

A MEETING.—A public meeting will be held on Friday, the 29th September, at 5 P.M. at the Metropolitan Institution, to discuss Mr. Pedler's proposed Educational scheme now before Government. Babu Narendra Nath Sen has consented to preside.

RETURN TO TOWN.—We are glad to welcome back to town the young and rising physician, Dr. Hemchander Sen, M. D. The news that he is now to occupy permanently the chair of Materia Medica in the Campbell Medical School, Calcutta, will be hailed with pleasure by many of our fellow-citizens.

THE "ANANDA BAZAR" DEFAMATION CASE.—Judgment was delivered on Tuesday by Mr. Allen, District Magistrate of the 24-Perganas, in the matter of the rule obtained by Babu Kali Prasanna Kayabisharad as to why the case instituted by him against the "Ananda Bazar Patrika" should not be restored. His Worship ordered a further enquiry into the case by the Police Magistrate of Alipore, Maulvie Seraj-ul-Huq.

BENGAL PROVINCIAL RAILWAY.—The approximate earnings of this Railway for the week ending 16th September, 1899, were: Coaching, Rs. 1,161; Goods, Rs. 119; Miscellaneous, Rs. 5. Total Rs. 1,285 or Rs. 40 per open mile. In the corresponding week of the previous year the total earnings were Rs. 1,300 or Rs. 40 per open mile. Total for 11 weeks from 1st July, 1899, Rs. 13,982 as compared with Rs. 16,999, total for the corresponding 11 weeks of 1898.

CRIMINAL BREACH OF TRUST.—On Monday before Babu C. N. Singh, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, a Mahomedan of Bhagore, was charged with criminal breach of trust in respect of ornaments and cash belonging to a relative. The complainant, who had, or sometime, been confined to bed, and deposited the articles with the accused for safe custody. After his recovery he asked the accused to return to him the articles when the latter denied all knowledge of them. Accused was sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.

A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday, the 23rd instant, train No. 115 Up, which starts at about 7.30 A.M. from Diamond Harbour station on the Southern Section of the E. B. S. Railway, Diamond Harbour Branch, was derailed at the points near the distant signal when it was leaving the station. All subsequent trains were, therefore, late and reached Sealdah about five hours after the usual time. The passengers in the derailed train received rather a severe shaking, but no serious injury. Considerable inconvenience, however, was caused to intending passengers to Calcutta.

MR. PEDLER'S SCHEME.—Referring to the constitution of the Committee appointed by the Government to consider the present system of vernacular education, the *Indian Daily News* says:—The very list of the members of the Committee will naturally lead one to question—Is there no educational expert outside the range of the public services? Why the names of Dr. Ashutosh Mukhopadhyaya, the leading spirit of the Calcutta University, and Dr. Mohendra Lal Sircar, the distinguished Bengali scientist not unconnected with the University, should have been omitted, is beyond our comprehension. The C. M. S. and Free Church Missionaries have a considerable interest in primary education in the country. It is surprising, therefore, to find that the names of the Rev. Mr. Ball, Clarke and Grant do not appear in the list; in fact, no mission is represented on the Committee, which we are told, is not yet dissolved. One may hope, therefore, that before the final consideration of the scheme under notice, some unofficial names may be included in the list.

RAJ COLLEGE UNION.—A correspondent writes from Burdwan:—The "Third Anniversary" of the Debating Club, called "The Raj College Union" was held on the 10th instant in the magnificent college building. The spacious hall was tastefully decorated with bunting and greenery and was full to its utmost capacity in spite of the sultry weather. The audience, mostly students, included several distinguished judicial and executive officers of Government besides a few leading pleaders of the local bar. The editor of the "Indian Nation," Mr. N. N. Ghose, Bar-at-law and Principal of the Metropolitan Institution, had been invited from Calcutta to deliver an address on the occasion and Mr. Abdul Kader, a distinguished Deputy Magistrate, was voted to the chair. The proceedings began with the reading of a report of the Club by the Secretary. Then after some recitations, the learned lecturer delivered a speech which contained sound advice to students. On his resuming seat, the first vanguard of Burdwan also spoke. The Chairman then in a neat little speech, thanked the learned lecturer for the kind sympathy he had shown and the trouble he had taken in coming up to Burdwan in this grilling heat. With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting dispersed.

SHOCKING SEVEN MURDERS.—Our Dacca correspondent writes:—One Alam Gomez, a native Christian, aged about 30 years, of village Bara Golla, station Nababgunge, Dacca, married one Duli Gomez, aged about 17 years, about a year ago. Alam Gomez had 2 minor daughters by his first wife who is dead. Some time after his second marriage, Alam Gomez began to suspect the fidelity of his new wife and took her to Calcutta. He came back with his wife about 2 months ago and went to go abroad in search of employment leaving his wife at home. His mother refused to take charge of the wife as she believed that Duli would soon run away. Then Alam took his wife to his mother-in-law and wanted to keep his wife with her. And though mother-in-law also declined to keep her, Alam left her there and came back home in a temper. This happened on the 30th August last. Coming back he first killed his old mother with a big knife by cutting her throat. Then he, in the same way, killed his two daughters. Then he came back to his father-in-law's house, and there with the same knife, in the same way, killed his mother-in-law, two brothers-in-law, and one sister-in-law. His wife was not in the house just at the time, and so she escaped. An alarm was soon raised by the neighbours and the man was immediately arrested. He has made, I hear, a clean breast of every thing, and has expressed his regret that he could not kill his wife. The case has been committed to the Court of Sessions.

A CHARGE OF DEFAMATION.—Babu Satish Chunder Dutt, proprietor of the Hahneman Home, in Bow Bazar street, applied for and obtained summons before Nawab Syad Ameer Hossein C.I.E., Northern Division Magistrate against Babu Poorna Chander Gupta, Editor, Printer, and Publisher of a vernacular weekly called the *Naba Yug*, for defaming him in the said paper while referring to an advertisement of his (complainant's) which had appeared in the *Dacca Gazette*. The advertisement was to the effect that the Home had engaged services of two M. D.'s—one European and one Bengali. The para complained of alleged that the defendant has ascertained that the so-called European was no other than a Brahmin's son dressed in European costume.

THE FIRST CASE AGAINST THE HITABADI.

BEFORE Mr. P. N. Mookerjee, Police Magistrate of Sealdah, the case of Emprison on the prosecution of Dinanath Rai vs. Debendranath Sen, Kaliprasanna Kayabisharad, Aswini Kumar Haldar, proprietor, editor and printer respectively, of the vernacular weekly, "Hitabadi," and Nanda Lal Ghose, for defamation, was taken up on Monday.

Mr. K. N. Sengupta, with Babu Hiren-dranath Dutt, attorney, and Babus Rajendranath Bannerjee and Preonath Ghose, appeared for the complainant.

Babu Hem Chandra Roy appeared for the first accused, and Mr. P. Mitter with Babu Hemendranath Mitter for the others.

The Magistrate informed Mr. Sengupta that an application had been made on Saturday on behalf of the first accused, Debendranath Sen, for permission to appear by agent and that he, the Magistrate, had granted that application.

RANEENGUNGE MURDER CASE.

THE hearing of the case in which twelve durans of the Bengal Paper Mills were charged with the murder of Mr. Ironside, before Mr. B. L. Gupta and a special jury at the Burdwan Sessions was concluded on Saturday last. After summing up the evidence of the several witnesses, Judge addressed the jury at a considerable length.

The jury then retired at 4.55, and returned after twenty-five minutes.

The Judge: Are you all unanimous?

Foreman: We are all unanimous.

The Judge: What is your verdict?

Foreman: None of the accused are guilty of murder of culpable homicide. As regards the minor offence, we find some of the accused guilty. We find the following accused guilty of rioting—on this point also we are unanimous: Mahadeb Sing, Hooplal Sing, Hari Prasad Sing, Sew Dutt, Rameswar Sing, Sreedutt Sing and Toppal Sing. We find them guilty under section 147. The rest of the accused we find not guilty of any offence. They are: Suraj Narain, Sipal Sing, Ram Raj Sing, Joypatro Sing, and Raj Gopal Ahir.

The Judge: There were four distinct assaults, one on Mr. Williams, one on Mr. Ironside, one on Bagal, and one wound on another man. If all the mill-hands had joined the affray, the result would have been very serious. No doubt it was the fault of Mr. Williams that started the affray, and he is to blame for this, but upon consideration of all the circumstances, I cannot pass a lenient sentence.

The accused found guilty were then sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment each.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

THE adjourned meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council was held yesterday at the Council Chamber, Writers' Buildings. In addition to the eighteen members—six elected and twelve official—there were present many well-known citizens of rank and position while the verandahs all round were packed with an expectant throng. His Honour arrived in state.

The one item of business before the Council was the discussion of the Calcutta Municipal Bill; and many of the members delivered long speeches.

The Hon. Mr. Baker moved for passing of the Bill.

Plague News.

PLAQUE IN CALCUTTA.

ON Tuesday 6 cases and 6 deaths were reported, one case and one death in each of the following wards—1, 4, 5, 8, 10, and 24. The total mortality was 61 as against 55, the mean of the last five years.

POONA MORTALITY.

ON Thursday 60 cases and 49 deaths were reported in the city, the total mortality being 56. In the cantonment there were seven cases and two deaths, in the suburban area two cases and two deaths, and in the district 37 cases and 42 deaths.

Two fresh cases have been admitted in the Sassoon Hospital, Mrs. Spence, wife of a Sergeant in the 1st Field Battery, and Mr. Dalten. The other patients are progressing favourably.

HYDERABAD, SIND, RETURNS.

PLAQUE at Hyderabad, Sind, shows no signs of abatement as yet. The returns for Friday recorded 13 cases and 13 deaths, those for Saturday 11 cases and nine deaths, and for Sunday 16 cases and 12 deaths, bringing the totals to 387 cases and 315 deaths.

A RESERVE of 250 Cavalry and Artillery horses for the South African Contingent will be despatched as soon as freight is arranged. Captains Harrison and Fitzgerald, 11th Hussars and Lieutenant Bright, R. H. A., with 143 non-commissioned officers and men accompany them.

The great success of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the treatment of bowel-complaints has made it stand out for the greater part of the civilized world.

SMITH STANISTREET & CO.
AND B. K. PAUL & CO.

TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAMS.]

THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE PUNJAB LAND ALIENATION BILL.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

SIMLA, SEPT. 27.

At to-day's meeting of the Supreme Legislative Council, the Hon. Mr. Rivaz in presenting the Select Committee's report on the Punjab Courts Bill explained that the Select Committee proposed no alterations in the main scheme except that they thought it unnecessary to make any distinction between Small Causes and Unclassed suits and that accordingly unconditional appeals were to be allowed in suits valued Rs. 2,500 and upwards, together with an important change in one of the subsidiary clauses regarding the limit of applications for appeal in cases of general interest from 30 to 90 days.

The Hon. Mr. Rivaz in asking leave to introduce the Punjab Land Alienation Bill took a historical retrospect of the question of indebtedness of the agricultural classes in different parts of India from the early days of British rule and said that the consequent loss of lands attracted the notice of Government. Mr. Justice West of Bombay first pointed out the necessity to formulate a plan for imposing some definite limitations on power to alienate land, in his pamphlet on "Land and Law in India." In 1875 in consequence of agrarian riots in the Deccan and on the recommendation of the Committee of Enquiries which was then held, the Deccan Agriculturalists' Relief Act was passed, resulting in an amendment of the ordinary civil law of that place. A similar law was passed for Sind, Broach and Kaira in 1881 and for the Jhansi Encumbered Estates in 1882, providing for the management of those estates under Government and debarring indebted owners from alienating any portion of them. The Famine Commission of 1898 suggested, as a means of relief, the imposition of restrictions on land transfers. In 1886, Mr. Thorburn's book on the "Indebtedness of Mahomedan landholders in the Punjab" attracted the Secretary of State's notice. In 1891 a Commission was appointed to report upon the working of the Deccan Relief Act and the Government was of opinion that such an Act would partially meet the difficulties. Accordingly a circular was issued to Local Governments and Administrations, and on receipt of their replies it was settled that the Punjab was to be first dealt with, being an important province in respect of agricultural indebtedness. The late Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, Sir James Fitzpatrick, recognised that that point might be gained by the prohibition of land-owners of specified castes or tribes from alienating ancestral lands without official sanction beyond life-time or to any person not belonging to those castes or tribes. At the same time important lights were thrown on the question by Mr. Thorburn, who made special enquiries, but Sir James Fitzpatrick was opposed to the general alienation of land while the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, was for it, and the majority of Judges of the Chief Court were also in favour of imposing distinct restrictions on alienation. The Hon. Mr. Justice Chatterjee considered that the measure of directly restricting alienation would exactly define the limits of the landholder's power of alienation and would thus check the prospects of litigation. Subsequently questions were circulated by Sir Mackworth Young to selected officers and non-officials constituting a Committee over which His Honour himself presided and they proposed that a permanent alienation of agricultural land, to a non-agriculturist, if made without sanction of the Deputy Commissioner of the District, should be void but that otherwise there should be no restriction on sale or other permanent transfers; that the definition of an agriculturist should be any person who himself was, or whose agnate ancestors were, recognised by the owner of the land as hereditary tenant; that the only form of temporary alienation in future should be usufructuary mortgage with delivery of possession to the mortgagee for a maximum period of 20 years and on condition that at the end of that period the mortgage and the mortgaged land should simply revert to the mortgagor or his successor; that mortgage under certain circumstances might be turned into usufructuary mortgage of the above nature. The Committee suggested restrictions on alienation generally throughout the Punjab but it was proposed to give power to the Local Government to exempt any portion or part of the province or any persons or clan. They also proposed to amend the existing law of pre-emption in the Punjab with a view to transfer the hearing of pre-emption cases from Civil Courts to revenue officers. These proposals of the Select Committee constituted the foundation of the scheme of the present Bill with some modifications in some particulars, which did not affect any question of principle which the Hon. Mr. Rivaz explained at considerable length. He concluded by saying that the Punjab was pre-eminently a land of yeomen and peasant proprietors, men who furnished the native army in India with its flower. The sole and entire object of the measure, while affording facilities and market for unobjectionable transfers, was to arrest further progress of mischief and to check by remedial action the ever-increasing political dangers.

The Viceroy in speaking of the same Bill, remarked that Mr. Rivaz had just asked leave to introduce a Bill which had been for years in the course of incubation. It represented the unanimous views of the Government of India, and had been accepted by the Secretary of State. "It has brief but powerful arguments, to which we have just listened, by the Lieutenant-Governor of the province to which it is proposed to be applied. Yet so conscious are we of the importance of the precedent that we are setting and of the far-reaching consequence of the solution that we propose, that we have resolved to give the amplest opportunity for an expression of opinion and even of criticism of those whose interests will be affected by this measure. In my opinion, legislation in this Council which is invested with the law-making prerogatives of the Governments of India should be deliberate in proportion to its facility; and laws that are made in haste are apt to be repeated at leisure. For these reasons we now introduce this Bill which the public and expert opinion will have ample opportunity of discussing during the next 6 months.

TELEGRAMS.

[INDIAN TELEGRAM.]

and fortified as we hope to be by this outside assistance, we shall then take up the measure when we re-assemble at Simla next year." Continuing His Excellency said—"We cannot afford to see the yeoman-farmers of the Punjab—the flower of the population and the backbone of the native army dwindle and become impoverished before our eyes. Neither can we acquiesce in the consummation of a social revolution which is in contradiction both to the traditions of the Indian society and of the cardinal precepts of British rule." After explaining why the Punjab should be taken up in this enterprise we shall be encouraged to proceed and thus, stone by stone, and layer by layer, to build up the fabric of financial and social stability for our rural population."

THE VICEREGAL TOUR.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

SIMLA, SEPT. 27.

His Excellency the Viceroy has given up the idea of touring in Rajputana and Ajmere. His Excellency goes probably to Delhi and the latter part of the tour programme will be adhered to, in Bhopal, Gwalior and the N. W. P. At the unanimous request of the Barons of Oudh His Excellency has decided to hold a durbat at Lucknow. The Viceroy also intends spending four weeks in visiting the centres of distress and suffering and may go as far as Bombay and the Deccan, which His Excellency would otherwise have spent in visiting Rajputana.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOODS.

36-HOURS' INCESSANT RAIN.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

ASANSOL, SEPT. 27.

There was a very heavy flood at Ghogha on the 24th. The rainfall was continuous for about 36 hours and registered nearly 11 inches in 24 hours. Some four miles of railway embankment, from mile 256, and one pier and two 60-foot girder spans of a large bridge have been completely washed away. Villages alongside the line, have been flooded all through and swept away, resulting in the loss of several lives. Through communication with Calcutta via Loop line is stopped. Vigorous arrangements are being made to tranship passengers and mails, but it will take time as the terrible rush of water will continue for some days yet. Mr. Highet, Railway District Engineer, Asansol, proceeds to Ghogha to-night again to push on the repairs.

A RETIREMENT.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

SIMLA, SEPT. 26.

Lieutenant Colonel C. W. H. Evans, commanding 1st Battalion, West Kent Regiment, has, it is understood, applied for permission to retire on half pay.

[FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.]

ADEN, SEPT. 25.

The P. and O. Company steamer Shannon with mails of the 15th instant left for Bombay at 5 A.M. to-day and also the steamer Oceana for Colombo and Australia.

LONDON, SEPT. 25.

The annual Lucknow dinner took place at the Hotel Metropole to-night. General Olpherts presided and thirty Lucknow veterans were present. General Olpherts in his speech dwelt enthusiastically upon the work of Havelock and Outram.

LONDON, SEPT. 26.

The proposed expedition against the Khalifa's stronghold at Jebelgedir will, in a great measure, depend upon the result of the Sirdars' tour on the White Nile; anyhow, nothing will be decided until Lord Cromer who is leaving England to-morrow, reaches Cairo.

LONDON, SEPT. 26.

The Khedive has left Vienna for Egypt via Brindisi.

LONDON, SEPT. 26.

The Mail steamer *Arctica* has left Melbourne with 112,000 sovereigns for India.

LONDON, SEPT. 27.

A detachment of the balloon section of the Royal Engineers sails for South Africa on Saturday next in the Cape mail steamer. Sir Mathew White Ridley, the Home Secretary, speaking at Blackpool last night, said that if we are compelled to go to war with the Transvaal it would not be on the question of suzerainty franchise, but to redress the grievances of the Uitlanders.

The Leicester Regiment, Dublin Fusiliers, the 18th Hussars, and three batteries of artillery, besides a detachment of Royal Engineers, altogether making a force of 3,500 men, are encamped at Dundee on the Natal border. The 1st Battalion King's Royal Rifles and the 5th Lancers have arrived at Ladysmith in Natal.

A WONDERFUL CURE

OF DIARRHOEA.

A PROMINENT VIRGINIA EDITOR.

ALMOST GIVEN UP, BUT WAS

BROUGHT BACK TO PERFECT HEALTH

BY CHAMBERLAIN'S COLIC, CHOLERA

AND DIARRHOEA REMEDY.

READ HIS EDITORIAL.

From the Times, Hillside, Va.

I suffered with diarrhoea for a long time and thought I was past being cured. I had spent much time and money and suffered so much misery that I had almost decided to give up all hopes of recovery and await the result, but noticing the advertisement of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and also some testimonials stating how some wonderful cures had been wrought by this remedy, I decided to try it. After taking a few doses I was entirely well of that trouble, and I wish to say further to my readers and fellow sufferers that I am a hale and hearty man to-day and feel as well as I ever did in my life.—O. R. MOORE. Sold by.

SMITH STANISTREET & CO.
AND B. K. PAUL & CO.

THE TRADE OF INDIA.

THE report on the trade of British India for the year ending March, 1899, with foreign countries by Mr. J. E. O'Connor, C. I. E., Director, General of Statistics, is published, and as usual is not only a storehouse of valuable information but is replete with shrewd and suggestive criticism and comment. Mr. O'Connor has a good deal to say in dispelling the notion, which to judge, from some of the questions and answers in the Currency Committee Blue Book, is pretty general, that 1898-99 was an exceptionally prosperous year.

The total import trade was not in excess of the average, and imports of merchandise were indeed smaller than in any of the preceding five years. The export trade was not six per cent. larger than the trade of 1892-93, seven years previously; not two and three-quarters per cent. larger than the trade of 1894-95, five years previously; and less than one and a-half per cent in excess of the trade of 1895-96, four years previously. To one who is accustomed to examine the progress of trade from year to year in a country which is still undergoing development in every direction, there is no occasion to point to the value of our trade last year, even though it is larger than has hitherto been reached, with any particular complacency, for the consideration cannot be rejected that, large as the value was, it might reasonably have been expected to be larger. If we reflect that the two immediately preceding years were exceptionally bad years, and a comparison is drawn, as is done here with four other ordinary years of the series, the apparently excessive and exceptional increase in the year assumes its true proportions and the perspective is corrected.

The truth is that the trade of the year, exceptionally good as it seemed to be compared with the depression of the two preceding years, would have been much better if the conditions had been entirely favourable. They were not. The effects of the famine which was so prominent a factor in influencing our commercial relations in 1896-97, and 1897-98, were mitigated by the autumn harvest which was brought to market in 1897; they disappeared from Northern India after the spring harvest of 1898 was reaped, but the prices of food grains though they began to fall in October, 1897, did not resume the level of the period before the famine until the autumn harvest of 1898 was assured. In Southern and Western India moreover the restoration to normal agricultural conditions was by no means so rapid and complete as in Northern India.

A marked feature of 1897-98 was the stringency of the money market, and Mr. O'Connor has a good deal to say in the present report regarding the causes of the appearance and disappearance of the phenomenon. The following is Mr. O'Connor's explanation of a tight money market.

On the outbreak of famine in the autumn of 1896, and the coincident outbreak of plague in Western India, the Government found themselves obliged to take large sums from the cash in the treasuries for transmission to the interior where the money was spent on the relief of famine. As the cash of the Government is a very important factor in the financing of trade operations, the withdrawal of all this money was sensibly felt at a time when active trade was commencing. Nor were the treasuries refilled in the beginning of the following year as usual, for the payment of revenue was largely suspended in consequence of the failure of crops. The pressure on the money market thus caused was intensified by the flight from Bombay large number of traders whom the epidemic of plague had stricken with terror. These people looked up their business offices, taking with them all the money they could command, and their extensive dealings in imported goods ceased at once. The goods that were daily reaching Bombay from abroad, imported in anticipation of an ordinary season, remained undelivered and formed a dead weight on the money market as well as in the dock sheds and importers' stores. Factory operatives and labourers also fled in thousands daily, and the circulation of money in Bombay was diminished in probably greater proportion than the reduction in the population. Later these conditions repeated themselves in Karachi, and again in Bombay when the epidemic broke out with renewed violence a year later. Meanwhile, in the middle of 1897, the outbreak of hostilities with the tribes on the north-western border was the signal for extensive and prolonged military operations, involving heavy expenditure and still further withdrawal of Government money from the commercial centres in which, in ordinary years, it would have been available for business operations. So depleted were the Government treasuries that it became necessary, not only to suspend the sale of Council bills and so deprive the market of its regular and accustomed supplies of money, but to reverse the normal conditions, the Government drawing from the local markets the rupee equivalent of bills for a million sterling bought by the India Office. While Government were thus withdrawing their money and unable to collect the revenue due, large sums were drawn away from the commercial centres by the demand for rupees in Burma, whence rice in large quantities, at double the normal prices, was being sent to the distressed districts in India. Meanwhile the stringency was extending inwards, for native bankers and money-lenders who had their available capital out at interest with the agricultural community found themselves suddenly deprived by the failure of the crops of the prospect of repayment, and were therefore obliged to restrict their operations. The agricultural classes too, being unable to buy cotton or other articles, the dealers found themselves with their stocks left on hand unable to obtain money with which to repay advances. There was in short a general lock-up of capital which would ordinarily have been rapidly circulating and this was naturally accompanied, in the uncertainty of the prospect, by a contraction of credit. As soon as a good harvest was reaped greater ease set in, and the second good harvest found things almost restored to their ordinary condition. The arrears of the Government revenue were paid, trade was resumed, credit was restored, and the money which had been locked away again circulated freely.

The following remarks are made upon the restorative and generally beneficent effect of a stable exchange.

Much of the measure of prosperity which attended the trade of 1898-99 may be assigned to the excellent conditions of trade in the United Kingdom and the United States, aided by the maintenance throughout the year of a stable rate of exchange the stability, as it was maintained from month to month, in spring increase

confidence in its permanent maintenance. With such confidence there was no longer any occasion to hasten to take away capital from India, to thrust goods as fast as possible on the Indian market before a fall in exchange, and to withhold exports in the hope of a fall. Such fears and hopes long possessed the minds of all concerned in the trade of India, leading to the result that the trade was carried on in a series of rushes and pauses having reference, not so much to the conditions and prospects of the market as to the conditions and prospects of exchange. It was an undeniable advantage to commercial intercourse that exchange was not during the year, the dominating factor in the conduct of trade operations which it was for so many long years; and it is a substantial advantage that it is already now possible to conduct operations in accordance with the conditions of prices, supply and demand, and so proceed with work in orderly fashion, instead of fitting transactions to the temporary conditions and immediate prospects of exchange.

This great stability of exchange enabled the country to utilise to the fullest advantage all the other conditions which tended to favour trade. A large demand for wheat, at prices unusually in excess of the level of recent years, set in when the peasants of the Punjab had gathered in a very good harvest. The trade in rice resumed its normal course, from which it had been diverted by the famine of 1896-97, and the export were stimulated by such a scanty harvest in Japan that, as on one or two former occasions, considerable quantities were sent to that country. It is not improbable indeed that in the near future the export of rice from Burma to Japan may become a regular and ordinary feature of trade, for the population of that country is apparently increasing out of proportion to the capacity of local production.

Mr. O'Connor draws similar conclusions from an examination of the aggregate value of the trade of the year—imports and exports—together and of the trade of the preceding nine years. In the aggregate we are told the trade was not quite so large as it would have been if the year had been uniformly good, and it may be anticipated that, given ordinary seasons, the aggregate of trade will in the years to come be well in excess of the Rs. 206,400,000 to which the trade of last year amounted. In an earlier paragraph reason was also given for anticipating that, whenever necessary, in ordinary seasons the excess of exports over imports would be as large as the excess of last year. If foreign capital should flow into India for judicious application in productive enterprises, the payment of the interest on it, and the payment of the sum drawn in Council bills, will cost no serious effort to India, provided the currency continues on a sound and stable basis and normal seasons follow each other. It is not reasonable, however, to expect that India should pay her way from revenue if a great famine should afflict the country. The cost of a famine, like the cost of a war must be provided specially when the occasion arises. Nor is it reasonable to argue that the currency system adopted by India should be so devised as to provide against such contingencies. Currency legislation cannot be constructed to insure against such calamities any more than buildings can be constructed to resist a great convulsion in the crust of the earth. As in every other country, the shock of such disasters must be faced, and the work of repair and restoration begun as soon as they have passed away. Meanwhile it is satisfactory to know the currency system of India is about to be assimilated to those of the countries with which quite four-fifths of her trade are conducted. Among these countries may rightly be included Ceylon and Mauritius the currency of both those colonies being the currency of India. Our trade with the United Kingdom (imports and exports of merchandise) amounted in the year to 45 per cent. of the whole trade in merchandise, including Government stores. Of imported merchandise upwards of 7 per cent. was received from England being either of English origin or shipped from the Continent to be re-shipped to India. Approximately 93 per cent. of the merchandise imported into India is received from countries in which gold is the currency standard.

The recent imposition of the countervailing sugar duties leads us to turn with interest to Mr. O'Connor's remarks on the sugar trade.

The principal competition with Indian sugar has so far been that of cane-sugar, beet-sugar having in only one year of the series attained comparatively large dimensions. It is probable that in the towns, where alone refined sugar is consumed in India, the consumer of confectionery would sooner or later learn to prefer the appearance of sweets made with refined sugar in supersession of Indian unrefined sugar and the *halwai* be induced by its cheapness to extensively employ beet-sugar. But it is not possible now to say how soon this change of habit might have occurred, or to what extent it would have affected the consumption of Indian unrefined sugar. The Government of India decided at the end of the year to follow the example set by the United States a year or two ago and to neutralise the effect of the Continental bounties by the imposition of countervailing duties on bounty-fed beet-sugar. The additional taxation did not fall on any sugar imported before the end of the year, and there are as yet no data for judging what the effect on the trade may be. The effect on prices of Indian as well as of imported sugar was of course immediate, as usual in all such cases. The question which occurs is whether, in face of the great extension of production in the beet-growing countries, the rise in price will be maintained. Probably not, but, however this may be, it is safe to say that nothing can save the small, inefficient, and crudely worked native refineries scattered in hundreds over the villages and towns of the sugar-growing tracts of India. It is quite truly observed in a recent Consular report on the trade of Austria-Hungary, that the low and consistent retrogression in the price of raw sugar renders the existence of any but large establishments conducted on the most modern and economical lines a practical impossibility. With prices ranging on an average from 11 florins to 12 florins per metric central, as has actually been the case for several years past, the competition of the smaller factories is precluded, handicapped as they mostly are by heavy working expenses. If this is true in the European Continent it is also true, and in a greater degree of the Indian Continent. The essential want in connection with the sugar industry is the introduction into it of capital and enterprise which will enable the country to refine for itself all the sugar needed for its consumption dispensing with the necessity for imports whether from Austria-Hungary or from Mauritius.

The Calcutta Collector of Customs recently called attention to the increasing competition of American with British railway material in the Indian market. Mr. O'Connor after remarking that over 15 crores of rupees in three years is a great sum for India to expend on railway material goes on to say in regard to the competition of the states:

A small importation of rails from the United States in 1897-98 was followed by another and larger one last year, about 4,000 tons of American rails having been imported. If there is going to be competition, however, it is as yet in its infancy, for the rails imported from the United Kingdom (for companies) in the year amounted to 76,000 tons, being in the proportion of 19 English tons to one American ton.

Coming to exports of Indian merchandise Mr. O'Connor deals at considerable length with the conditions governing the exports of rice and wheat from India, and arrives at the following interesting conclusions:

Close and particular attention is always given to the Indian wheat trade by critics of Indian economics and finance, so close indeed that one is tempted to think that they believe it to be the most important part of our trade and the inference is strengthened by the persistency with which attention is drawn to the fact that there has been no real increase in the export price of wheat. The fact is ignored that the export price of rice has increased by more than 50 per cent. and that the trade in that grain is of far greater importance than the trade in wheat, as regards both quantity and value. Internally, too, the cultivation of rice is of much greater importance. The area under wheat is only a third of the area under rice, the harvest yield is about a fifth of that of rice, and for one person, in India who habitually eats wheat at least five persons habitually live on rice. The question then suggests itself, why are the facts of the wheat trade so closely studied (and to so little purpose) for the purpose of drawing general inferences as to the economic position of India, and the rice trade so entirely ignored? The answer seems to lie in the point of view of the observer. When he is a student or observer of European economics he dwells most largely on the incidents of the trade which most materially affects the condition of European people. The wheat trade of the world is to him a trade of enormous importance and he is apt to think looking at the quantities exported from India, that the trade is as important to the supplier as it is to the consumer, or as it is to the supplier from other countries from which wheat is largely exported. The rice trade does not affect the European observer in the same degree. Less than half the Indian export is carried to Europe, whereas all the wheat exported by us is taken to Europe, and rice does not their compete in any special degree with European produce as wheat does and is used for food to a relatively small extent its main uses being for manufacturing purposes. These circumstances lead to undue neglect of the conditions of the rice trade and to undue attention to the conditions of the wheat trade. Another reason is that the trade is of importance to the management of certain large railway lines in India, for most of the grain is grown at a considerable distance from the coast, and the conveyance of that material portion of the crop which is exported gives what is called a "long lead" to these lines. The management therefore in their reports and addresses lay great stress on this traffic, so much stress indeed that authorities and critics alike are apt to be confirmed in their ideas of the dominating importance of the wheat trade to India. The managers and directors of railway do not refer to the rice trade in this way, because most of it is water-borne from the field to the place of consumption. These remarks are not intended in any way to imply that the trade in wheat is not of importance to India. It is certainly an important trade, and it is much to be desired that its dimensions should further increase; but it is not so important as the rice trade, or the trade in oilseeds, or in cotton, or jute, and it is well to look at things in their true proportions and give them their just perspective.

Indian tea growers are won't to attribute something more than the facts warrant to the influence of the closure of the mints on the tea trade. Mr. O'Connor has the following on the conditions of the Indian tea trade:

So far as the London market is concerned, the competition of Chinese tea may be and is regarded by the tea-planters of India and Ceylon, as a thing of the past. The closing of the mints in 1893, which was claimed to have a fateful significance for our trade and to be the signal for the restoration of Chinese tea to the position it once occupied, did not bring about even a momentary pause in the rate at which that trade was being destroyed—another proof, if one were wanted, that a bad currency system does not promote trade and that a good currency system cannot injure it.

Whether the importations of China tea will be much further reduced must be treated as an open question. There are qualities of China tea which cannot be rivalled by the tea of India or Ceylon, and it is possible that those qualities will continue to be consumed by those who can afford to pay for them. A certain quantity is also still used for blending with the stronger Indian and Ceylon teas. Whether the irreducible minimum is to be found in from 20 to 25 million pounds or in a much smaller quantity cannot be predicted. Some complaint has been made of the difficulty of capturing foreign markets, and it has been suggested that it would be materially lessened or removed if the Indian currency standard were allowed to depreciate, so as to permit India to compete with and undersell China. Yet it is practically certain that even if the rupee were reduced to a gold value of sixpence no sensible effect would be produced in the foreign markets which Indian tea is seeking to enter. The question is certainly not exclusively one of price, for Indian tea has always been more highly priced than China tea in the London market and the dislodgment of Chinese tea from the position it had acquired was effected as the outcome of prolonged endeavour based on other considerations than the single consideration of price. Success was achieved in the end, but the end did not come for twenty years although the Indian tea gardens have had all the advantages of being worked with capital from London, the owners of the capital being of course under an inducement to stimulate the use of their tea, while the tea was produced in a British dependency by men whose domestic and financial and commercial relations were cast exclusively in the United Kingdom where their tea was to be consumed. Things are very different in the other countries which Indian tea is seeking to enter. The consumers

of tea there have no relations, either of blood or finance, with the growers of Indian tea and have therefore no special inducement to spread its use. Entering strange markets without any support but its own merits, it should be expected that the contests for supremacy must be longer in those countries than it was in the United Kingdom, for there the old vested interests in China tea were met by the new vested interests in Indian tea, while in the foreign markets there is no such collision. In some of those markets China tea is supreme. In others Japanese tea competes with it extensively in others again Java tea holds the field. There are still others where tea from any country is not a popular beverage and coffee is in universal consumption. This is the case all over the European Continent, with the exception of Russia and perhaps to a small extent in Holland where Java tea is consumed.

Mr. O'Connor is no more hopeful than most others regarding the prospects of Indian indigo. The cultivation of the plant is precarious, and the extent of the harvest is affected, in a greater degree than food-crops by climatic considerations. The exports consequently vary very much from year to year, a good season being followed by large exports and a bad season by reduced exports. In former days, a reduced export brought its compensation to the owner of the dye in a higher level of price; but this is not always, or often, the case now. Since 1893, in which year a high level of price was attained for Bengal indigo, the price has tended constantly downwards, and in the last season the level was the lowest known. This was partly due to the fact that the quality of the indigo sold in Calcutta was not very good—for quality, as well as quantity seems to be affected by the seasons—but perhaps in a greater degree to another cause. It is not now necessary that dyers should seek the finest indigo for fine fabrics, the progress of applied science having enabled them to utilise inferior qualities of indigo; hence the fine qualities of Bengal indigo now come into competition with the inferior kinds grown and manufactured by native planters in Upper India and Madras, as well as with the indigo grown in other countries. Moreover as regards the commoner fabrics, the employment of mineral dyes has greatly interfered with the use of indigo and recently much concern was created by the announcement that the great Baden factory had succeeded in producing synthetic indigo and was about to put it on the market in competition with the superior natural dye. The announcement was apparently premature, but in any case it did not help in the recovery of prices. The present season unfortunately has been very bad following on two bad seasons, and the outlook for the industry is not as cheering as could be wished. The attention of planters is now being directed to methods which may secure greater economy and efficiency and increase the yield of dye from the plant; and certainly the necessity for such attention has been made clear.

ANIMAL PARTNERSHIPS.

When a creature has no sharp teeth or claws, no prickles, spine, or hard shell, and no means of running very fast to get out of danger, what is it to do? "Get wiped out in the general struggle for existence" seems the only natural reply.

Yet everywhere you can find such creatures and far from being exterminated they manage to increase and flourish amazingly, and this simply by the exercise of their wits, or the much developed instinct which does duty for wits.

The favourite device of any defenceless creature is to get some other stronger and bigger than itself to afford it protection. Of this a most amazing instance is to be found any summer's day along the mouth of the Thames. In the shallow channels between the sands may be seen floating hundreds of transparent jelly-fish.

If you look carefully you may see underneath the larger of these creatures and right among their long tentacles a number of tiny white shrimps. It used to be supposed that the jelly-fish lived on these shrimps, but it is now ascertained that so far from this being the case the smaller fish is living under the protection of the medusa.

The jelly-fish floats along, collecting food with its long arms, while the little shrimp remains in safe shelter and lives on the remnants. Taken from its protector, the shrimp dies almost at once. No one knows how this strange partnership first started. It seems rather a one-sided affair; but that it exists any one can see for himself.

The sea cucumbers also give shelter to a tiny salt water fish, which, if not thus protected, would soon die, and in similar fashion the big Brazilian catfish saves another species from extinction, by allowing them to live in his mouth.

A curious lizard, known as the tuatara, inhabits the Chicken Islands, off New Zealand. It does not find much food for itself, whereas the petrel, which also lives there, gets plenty of fish. The lizard, however, is able to burrow, which the petrel cannot. The two creatures, have, therefore, entered into a partnership whereby the petrel nests in the lizard's burrow, and the lizard profits by the remains of fish Mr. and Mrs. Petrel bring home.

The remora or sucking fish may distinctly be said to live on its wits. Right on top of its head it has developed a sucker by means of which it attaches itself firmly to some big fish, such as a shark or whale, and is so towed in safety over whole oceans picking up plenty of food on the way.

There are dozens of similar instances. Look at the hermit crab, which carefully selects an empty shell in which to hide his tender body, or the little pea-crab, which shares its food with a mussel in return for the protection of the latter's shell.

MR. Henniker Heaton, M. P., has received an unofficial communication to the effect that his request for the enlargement of the official inland post-card has been granted, and that the change will take effect on Nov. 1. Two cards—one white and the other buff—equal in size to the English foreign cards, will then be substituted for those at present in use. Messrs. De La Rue and Co. are understood to have made very considerable concessions in the matter, which will result in a large saving to the Post Office. Another point pressed by the hon. member for Canterbury—that inland official post-cards should be sold at their face value—has not yet been conceded.

THE PLAGUE.

THERE was a rumour in London on Saturday that a case of death from the plague had been notified to the Port Sanitary Authority in London. On inquiry it was ascertained that no such case had occurred in or near London. Word had come to hand about the suspicious death of a man who was on his way to London from Oporto.

He was supposed to have died from the bubonic plague. The ship on which he was travelling will be carefully inspected on arrival at Southampton. In the meantime the most rigorous precautions are being taken in London. The Port Sanitary Authority, with Dr. Collingridge at the head, stops every vessel coming up the Thames at Gravesend. A close and careful investigation is made, and particular care is exercised with regard to vessels from Portugal. Happily no case of plague has shown itself in the Thames so far.

IN PORTUGAL.

Oporto, Sept. 1 (Reuter).—Three fresh cases of plague were reported here to-day. A number of the leading local doctors, in conjunction with Drs. Bardi and Staquita, who have just arrived from Italy, have made a post-mortem examination in the Municipal Laboratory on the body of one of the plague victims. It is expected that the tradespeople will re-open their shops as the result of a telegram received from the Premier, to the effect that the Government hopes shortly to meet some of their demands, which cannot, however, be granted in their entirety under present circumstances. The Mayor has tendered his resignation. The troops in garrison here are confined to barracks in readiness for any emergency.

Sept. 4 (Times).—In the last 12 days there have been 14 new cases of plague and 6 deaths, making a total from the beginning of 64 cases and 25 deaths.

Sept. 5 (Reuter).—Three new cases of plague were reported here yesterday, and 1 death occurred. No fresh case of plague or death was reported to-day.

The French Medical Mission have come to the conclusion that the prevalent outbreak is one of Indian plague. The French doctors have begun inoculating the sufferers with the serum prepared at the Pasteur Institute. They protest against the inefficiency of the sentry cordon. They are very pleased with the cordial manner in which they have been received by the local authorities and doctors.

IN EGYPT.

CAIRO, Sept. 3 (Reuter).—Up to the present the total number of cases of plague reported at Alexandria is 89. Forty-three of the cases resulted fatally, and 44 of the persons affected recovered. During the week ending to-day 2 fresh cases of plague, 1 death, and 2 recoveries were reported.

Alexandria, Sept. 4 (Times).—A death from plague occurred here yesterday.

TEN thousand pounds having been voted by the National Memorial committee for the erection of a suitable library at Hawarden for Mr. Gladstone's collection of books, stored by himself after months of labour in a temporary structure, near Hawarden Church, the trustees have arranged to proceed immediately with the work.

THE *Lancet* writes: In spite of the interesting number of abstainers and of persons who drink with conspicuous moderation, the expenditure on drink continues to grow, amounting last year to the prodigious total of £154,480,934 sterling, a net increase on that of 1897 of £2,199,211. No only is the sum spent almost incredible, but the Registrar-General shows us that deaths from acute and chronic alcoholism are increasing, especially among women. The conclusion is irresistible that excessive drinking still goes on. Some of it, we believe, is based on an honest belief that "drink is good—that is, "nourishing"—or that it "trenches"—is in the case of Benjamin Franklin's fellow pressman, who took six pints of strong beer a day to make him "strong."

A COLLEGE joke played on a pluralist or holder of many offices is reported in "Memories of Half a Century" (Longmans), by the Rev. R. W. Hiley, Vicar of Wighill. It relates to Dr. Bull of Christ Church, Bull, when on a visit of inspection to property belonging to the college, ordered dinner for himself at the hotel near by. When after waiting for some time for dinner to be announced, he entered the dining-room he found "the table elaborately laid out for fourteen. He inquired how it was his own dinner was not ready, as it was long after time. 'It was ready punctually,' quoth Boniface, 'but I have been waiting for the rest of the company to arrive.' The rest of the company exclaimed the astonished visitor. 'I am alone!' 'Oh, I was written to that you would be accompanied by several other officials and to prepare accordingly.' Boniface produced the letter. There was, sure enough, a catalogue of all the offices monopolised by Dr. Bull—Canon of Christ Church, treasurer of Christ Church, curator of the University chest, etc. Dr. Bull was silent, and saw he had been the victim of some wag's contrivance."

THE following little story, illustrative of Mr. Gladstone's courtesy, is fresh to us. It comes to us from an old resident of Llanfairfechan. The incident occurred at Penmaenmawr, in the summer of 1890. About 1,200 feet up the mountain is a small farmstead, Pen Penmaen at which resided an old lady over seventy years of age, who brought her weekly stock of provisions in a large basket up the steep a scent from Llanfairfechan village. One hot Saturday soon after commencing her upward climb, she sat down to rest. Mr. Gladstone, seeing her entered into conversation. She chatted freely and detailed the contents of her basket. He lifted it, and, finding it heavy, offered to carry it for her. The offer was accepted and the veteran statesman bore the basket-load to the whitewashed farm cottage, near the summit. A party of tourists approaching from the Druid's Circle path respectfully saluted Mr. Gladstone, who, having set the heavy load down at the old lady's door, strode vigorously across the mountain path to Penmaenmawr. "Did you know that was Mr. Gladstone who carried your basket for you?" inquired one of the party. "No, indeed; I don't know Mr. Gladstone," replied the old lady, "but I know that is a kind gentleman whoever he is."—*Daily Chronicle*.

TEXAS FEVER AND BLACKWATER FEVER.

RECENT legislation has shown that the Government of India is alive to the possibility of the introduction into this country of that disease of cattle and horses best known as "Texas fever." The name "Texas fever" is, however, a misnomer, which gives a local habitation and a name to a disease which has by no means such a restricted distribution. We propose here briefly to discuss the nature of this fever and to allude to a novel theory recently put forward which claims that redwater or Texas fever in cattle is identical with the deadly blackwater fever in man which we have recently heard of as occurring in certain parts of the Duars and elsewhere in India. What then is Texas fever? It is a disease of cattle and horses, first carefully studied by Messrs. Smith and Kilbourne in Texas. It is by no means, however, confined even to the United States, though when first described it was ravaging the cattle of Texas, South Carolina, Arkansas, Florida and several other Southern States. It is also known in Finland, in Sicily, and in the Roman Campagna, and more recently the disease has assumed considerable importance in our Australian colonies, and has led to legislation for its prevention. The malady appears in two forms, the acute and the attenuated. The acute form, almost always fatal, prevails chiefly in the hot weather and rapidly causes great destruction among the infected herds. Fever is the first symptom, the temperature rapidly rises, after a period of rising oscillations it remains stationary for some days, and death usually follows. In some cases a rapid fall of temperature precedes the fatal issue. The water becomes red in colour, owing to the destruction of the red blood corpuscles and liberation of their colouring matter. The loss of blood corpuscles is enormous; in each cubic millimetre of blood it has been estimated that the loss amounts to eight millions in one day. The essential cause of the disease is a blood parasite called the *pyrosoma bigemum*, a pale, pear-shaped body which lives inside many of the blood corpuscles. It is this parasite which destroys so many of the corpuscles and causes the characteristic symptom of the disease—the redwater. This organism was first isolated and described by Smith and Kilbourne in 1886, and their views have recently been entirely confirmed by Professor Koch.

How do these parasites get into the blood? Here again we meet with one of the fairy tales of science. Just as we have recently learned that the parasite of malaria is conveyed into the human circulation by means of certain forms of mosquitoes, so here the intervention of the tick is necessary to convey the redwater parasite to animals, and more wonderful still, the statement of Smith and Kilbourne has been recently confirmed by Koch that not only can the infected ticks convey the parasite, but the young developed from the eggs of infected ticks can infect healthy animals. This transmission of blood parasites by the descendants of ticks is certainly one of the most remarkable facts in biology. Koch has inoculated healthy animals with the blood of cattle that had been infected by this young ticks and produced Texas fever anew. Another instance in which a similar symbiotic role is played by two organisms is the African horse disease "Nagana" where the dreaded tsetse fly plays the part of the mosquito or the tick. The particular species of tick concerned in this fever is known as *boophilus bovis* or *ixodius* Smith and Kilbourne long ago showed that if all ticks are carefully picked off from the body of an animal in an infected region that animal may be imported into other districts without any danger of spreading the disease. If one puts ticks from infected cattle on the grass where healthy cattle feed the fever is not long in showing itself. When healthy cattle are mixed with infected cattle Texas fever does not usually show itself till after a lapse of some forty days or till another generation of ticks have been born. This disease has of late years become prevalent in several parts of Australia, especially in Queensland, and Dr. F. Tipswell has recently presented a valuable and careful report to the Government of New South Wales on protective inoculation against this tick-fever, as it is perhaps most correctly called. It has been shown in America that cattle can acquire immunity against tick-fever, but this immunity becomes perfect only after repeated attacks, and observations showed that it was possible to devise protective measures by exposing healthy animals to a mild attack of the fever, or by inoculation, with the blood of infected animals. The American authorities favoured the former and simpler process, while the Government of Queensland prefer inoculation. Inoculation as carried out in the latter country consists of infecting the blood from animals who have recovered from the disease in the hopes of obtaining immunity at the expense of a mild attack of tick-fever. It appears that nearly 18,000 cattle have thus been inoculated, with a mortality of only three per cent. After inoculation ninety inoculated cattle were taken and exposed to ticks, but remained unaffected, while thirty unprotected cattle all suffered from the disease.

The effects of inoculation on cattle are the same as those of the natural tick-fever, but much milder as regards fatality and illness. From natural tick-fever the death-rate is about 70 per cent., while after the fever produced by inoculation it is only about four per cent. This method of inoculation is still crude and imperfect, but it is the only one known at present, and notwithstanding that inoculation does not confer absolute immunity in every case still the benefits are great and marked, and in the face of a threatened invasion of tick-fever it is a perfectly justifiable procedure which is to be recommended. We referred at the commencement of our remarks to the connection which has been made out between this redwater fever of cattle and that most fatal to man of all African diseases—the dreaded blackwater fever, the exact nature of this fever is just now attracting very great attention, and one of the objects of the "Malaria Commission" recently sent to India and Africa by the Royal Society, and the Colonial Office is to elucidate its nature. We cannot go into the many theories about this fever. The wildest of them, fathered at second hand by Koch, that it is only quinine poisoning is contradicted by numerous facts, one of which is sufficient to crush it, viz., that veritable epidemics of blackwater-fever have been known and reported among native tribes in Africa who have never seen nor tasted quinine. For our present purpose we only refer to the latest theory of Dr. Luigi Sambon, an Italian physician now in London,

who has had much experience of this fever in Africa. In his most recent writing on this subject he maintains that blackwater fever in man is identical with the redwater (tick) fever of cattle, produced by the same or a very similar parasite and inoculated by ticks. The arguments he uses in favour of his view are that the descriptions given by certain observers of the blood parasites correspond exactly to those of the parasites of Texas fever. It is also a curious fact that several Italian observers have noted the frequent occurrence of blackwater fever among cowboys who would naturally in their work be liable to be attacked by ticks. Moreover, Dr. Sambon points out that in the Southern United States, in Sardinia, in East Africa, and in many other regions we find redwater fever in cattle and blackwater fever in man at the same season of the year. We have not space to refer to the many arguments against this view, but we may say at least that Dr. Sambon has furnished considerable evidence in favour of the view that blackwater fever is a distinct specific disease, and one entirely apart from malaria.—*Englishman*.

LATEST AIRSHIP, LIKE A STORK.

HERR ARTHUR STENZEL, the Austro-German engineer, has constructed a flying machine, which will shortly make its trial trip.

Herr Stenzel has constructed his airship after the model of a flying stork, with two large wings and a tail for steering purposes, while the car and electric motor correspond in position to the body of the bird.

Each wing of the airship will measure 19ft. by 5ft., and will be composed of steel ribs covered with sail-cloth. The whole machine will weigh 20lb., and will be able to carry a weight of 150lb. at a height of 500ft. for three hours.

If the trial trip of this machine is a success, Herr Stenzel will proceed to construct much larger airships on the same principle.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES IN ABYSSINIA.

Reuter's representative has had an interview with Captain Welby, who has just arrived from an expedition in the unknown portions of Abyssinia and the countries lying north of Uganda between Lake Rudolf and the Nile Valley. He visited and lived with some twenty different tribes. Perhaps the most curious of these were two races of giants living near Lake Rudolf and the people who inhabit the devil-possessed district of Walamo. During the whole journey of about 4,000 miles the explorer did not have occasion to fight the natives.

Captain Welby referred in the following terms to the district of Walamo:—

One of the most weird and remarkable scenes I ever witnessed was in Walamo, some fortnight's journey south of Addis Abeba. The place had an evil reputation, and I had frequently heard that any person venturing to enter the country became the special prey of demons—in fact, became possessed by devils. Of course, I scoffed at the idea; but nevertheless, it made me more determined than ever to go there. My Abyssinians did not even demur when I told them of my resolve, but the fact really was that they did not think I should be permitted to enter the devil-possessed zone. On reaching the mysterious place I found it to be one of great beauty. It was a fertile country with luxuriant vegetable growth, intersected with streams. It was, moreover, very hilly and well-wooded. The inhabitants I found to be most friendly, although they told me they had never seen a white man before. So far all had gone well, and I was more certain than ever that the evil reputation of the place was only based on superstitious nonsense. I do not say that subsequent experience has left any very clear idea in my mind, and I can in no way explain the marvellous phenomena which I witnessed. I only state the facts. The first sign of anything wrong was when one of my Somali escort rushed into camp shouting "Walamo, Walamo!" He was frightfully excited; he shook violently, and kicked like a madman, and in the intervals between his shrieks he told me that he was possessed by a devil. The whole of that night he was neither more nor less than a maniac, but the next day he was perfectly well. I had been previously told that once a man had become "Walamo" or devil-possessed, he was always liable to a second attack, and as a simple measure of precaution, the man's rifle was taken from him. While on the march he had another access of this curious madness, in the course of which he drew a knife, and, rushing about, threatened to kill everybody. It took several men to hold him down. It is supposed to be especially dangerous to eat food in the presence of the Walamo people, and on one occasion one of my Sudanese saw a Walamo gazing intently upon him while he was having his meal. Nothing untoward occurred at the time, but two days later this man became a raving lunatic. The latest victim, who was my headman, had always been a peaceable, orderly fellow, but he professed to know before the outbreak that he had become possessed. Certain it is that he, like the Somali, kicked and yelled and exhibited similar symptoms to the other unfortunate. Without intermission he shouted "Walamo" at the top of his voice and in his madness injured three men. Eventually he had to be tied up but the next day he was perfectly well. Thinking I could, perhaps, do something to explain these extraordinary occurrences, I resolved to eat solemnly a meal in the presence of the Walamo myself. When all was prepared, I had something like too of these people watching me. In due time the meal was over, and I thought no more about it. Here I should state that I had not had a day's illness during the journey, was in the best of health at the time. The next day, however, I felt thoroughly ill. Needless to say, I did not let any of my people know that anything was wrong, nor can I attempt to explain the cause. I was quite unable to find a cause for this mysterious business. As I said before, I merely confine myself to a bare statement of the facts. It was a most anxious time for me, as I did not know whether at any moment the whole camp might not become "Walamo."

OWING to the recently disturbed state of the frontier special escorts have been furnished between Sarwakai and Wana, for the protection of the survey party working there in connection with the construction of the ekka road between Murtaza and Wana.

"THE GAZETTE OF INDIA."

LIEUTENANT R. E. HAMILTON, Assistant Commissioner, Punjab, is granted twelve months' leave on medical certificate out of India.

Mr. H. Fraser is permitted to resign the Civil Service.

The services of Lieutenant-Colonel C. Little, I. M. S., are placed permanently at the disposal of the Government of Burma.

The services of Colonel D. Sinclair are placed permanently at the disposal of the Government of Madras.

The services of Captain J. Randall, 23rd Punjab Pioneers, are replaced at the disposal of the Military Department.

The services of Lieutenant FitzGerald, 18th Bengal Lancers, are placed temporarily at the disposal of the Government of Bombay for plague duty.

The services of Mr. J. Cotton, Indian Civil Service, Madras, are placed at the disposal of the Home Department.

The services of Mr. E. Lawrence, Civil Service, Bombay, are placed at the disposal of the Government of Bombay.

The services of Mr. A. G. Chuckerbutty, Civil Service, Bengal, are replaced at the disposal of the Government of Bengal.

Mr. A. Newmarch is appointed Comptroller, Assam.

Mr. L. E. Pritchard, Comptroller, Assam, is granted privilege leave for three months.

The services of Lieutenant S. Douglas, I. M. S., are placed at the disposal of the Military Department.

The undermentioned officers are permitted to retire:—Colonel Mainwaring, 29th Punjab Infantry; Colonel Cade, Indian Medical Service; Major Balderston Vaughan.

The undermentioned officers on the Unattached List are permitted to retire:—Honorary Captain Charles Fletcher, Ordnance Department; Honorary Captain Ezechiel, Commissariat Transport Department; Honorary Lieutenant Newell, Ordnance Department.

Mr. E. J. Moore is granted six months' extension of furlough, in addition to the twelve months originally granted him.

Mr. L. E. Yates is transferred from the Eastern Bengal Railway to the North-Western, and appointed to officiate as Deputy Locomotive Superintendent.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

BABU BARADA DAS BOSE, Offg Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Rajshahi, is allowed extension of leave for fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Prakas Chandra Sinha, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Fenny, is promoted sub pro tem to the fifth grade of Dy Magtes and Dy Collrs.

Babu Nandendra Nath Gupta, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Backergunge, is promoted sub pro tem to the fourth grade of Dy Magtes and Dy Collrs.

Babu Kali Kumar Roy Chowdhry, sub pro tem Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Backergunge, is allowed extension of leave for five days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Rai Okhoy Coomar Sen Bahadur, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Dacca, is allowed leave for six weeks, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Ashay Kumar Chatterjee, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, Burdwan, is allowed leave for forty-five days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. Brojendra Coomar Seal, Dist and Sessions Judge, Birbhum, is appointed to act in addition to his own duties, as Addl Sess Judge of Burdwan, during the period of the ensuing Civil Court vacation.

Mr. E. B. H. Pantom, Offg Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, Patna, is appointed to have charge of the Samastipur sub-division.

Mr. H. Walsley, Offg Jt-Magte and Dy Collr, on leave, is posted to Patna, and is also appointed to have charge of the Patna City sub-div.

Babu Joges Chandra Mitter, Offg Addl Dist and Sess Judge, Dacca and Mymensingh, is appointed to act as Dist and Sess Judge, Dacca.

Mr. F. L. Halliday, Offg Dy Commr of Police, Calcutta, is allowed furlough for five months, under article 640 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Promotha Nath Dutt, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, employed as Persl Asst to the Inspector General of Registration, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Kedar Nath Mukherjee, Spl Sub-Registrar, Chittagong, is allowed leave for one month under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. R. Peuhro, Rural Sub-Registrar, Hathazari, is appointed to act as Spl Sub-Registrar of Chittagong.

Mr. W. Leonard, Splt of the Alipore Central Jail, is allowed leave for three months under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Mr. G. A. Davis, Dy Supt of the Buxar Central Jail, is appointed to act as Supt of Jail Manufactures, Bengal, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. J. W. Hallon. Mr. Davis is also appointed to act, in addition to his own duties, as Supt of the Alipore Central Jail.

Babu Shama Churn Mitter, Dy Magte and Dy Collr, now employed as Personal Asst to the Commr of Excise, Bengal, is allowed leave for eighteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

The services of Maulvi Abdul Bari, sub pro tem Addl Sub Judge of Sylhet, now officiating as Sub Judge of Patna, are placed at the disposal of the Govt. of Bengal.

The services of Maulvi Mirza Bedar Bukht, Munsif of Maulvi Bazar, is now officiating as an Addl Munsif of Gobindpur and Chaibassa in Chota Nagpur, are placed at the disposal of the Govt. of Bengal.

The services of Babu Tara Prasanna Das, Munsif of Habiganj, are placed at the disposal of the Govt. of Bengal.

The services of Babu Nilalohit Mukerji, Munsif of Sylhet, are placed at the disposal of the Govt. of Bengal.

The services of Babu Annada Kumar Sen, Addl Munsif in the district of Sylhet, on deputation to Habiganj, are placed at the disposal of the Govt. of Bengal.

Major J. G. Jordan, I. M. S., on return from leave, is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Rajshahi.

Senior Asst Surg and Hony Lieut I. Burnett, Medl Offr, E. B. S. Ry, Damukdi, is allowed privilege leave for 3 months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Babu Pran Kissen Dass, Sub-Dy Collr Jamtara, Sonthal Parganas, is allowed furlough for six months, under article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Indian News.

SIR W. CUNNINGHAM, Foreign Secretary, will arrive in Bombay from England on the 7th of December.

PROFESSOR W. M. HAFKINE returns to India by the P. and O. Co's steamer Shannon, reaching Bombay this week.

MR. K. L. DUTT will officiate as Comptroller of Indian Treasuries from the beginning of October till Mr. Hart returns from leave.

AYUB KHAN, Ex-Amir, his arrival at Srinagar, where he was received by the Resident, with whom he stayed for the first day of his visit as a guest.

THE Railway Conference is holding constant meetings at Simla and several sub-committees have been formed. It will probably dissolve about the 6th of October.

It has been decided to work the Umballa diary and grass farms separately, as at present, until April next, when a joint manager will probably be put in charge of the combined concern.

ANOTHER Marine Survey of the Burma coast has been sanctioned to be undertaken during 1899-1900, after that of the coast between Baimdur and the Moolkierock, South Canara, have been done.

THE Punjab Government has offered rewards, aggregating over Rs. 10,000, for the capture of the leaders of the Gumatti outlaws that have so long harried the borders of the Bannu and Kohat districts.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned Mr. G. W. Forrest, Director of Records, being placed on special duty in the India Office for one year, to complete his works on the Seige of Delhi and on Sir Hugh Rose; after which Mr. Forrest will retire.

THE Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces pays a flying visit to Jubbulpore next week to confer with Mr. Fuller, Commissioner, and Mr. Robertson, Deputy Commissioner, as to the best means to ameliorate the condition of the distressed, and to grapple with the impending famine.

OVER 24,000 persons are now employed on the test famine relief works in the Hissar district. This is about equivalent to the number that was so employed in the last week in January of the famine of 1896-97. The outlook of the Hissar district for the coming winter is, therefore, of the gloomiest.

THE following is the list of business for to-day's Supreme Legislative Council:—The Kirk Sessions Bill will be passed. The Hon. Mr. Rivaz presents the reports of the Select Committees on the Central Provinces Court of Wards, and the Punjab Courts Act, 1884, Amendment Bills, and introduces a Bill to amend the law relating to agricultural land in the Punjab.

THE annual requirements in horse and pony stallions for the Bengal and Bombay Presidencies during 1900-1901 are by importation eight and by purchase in India 30. Sanction has also been given for the purchase of eight thoroughbred Australian stallions during 1900-1901, and to the purchase of six Australian in India at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,500 each.

SIR A. Trevor and Mr. Upcott, Member of Council, and Secretary Public Works Department, will form the official members of the peripatetic Railway Commission this cold weather, to whom will probably be added a commercial member from Karachi. The Secretary has not yet been nominated. The Commission sits first in Bombay, and thereafter goes to Madras.

IT is now settled that the Viceroy's proposed tour shall be considerably modified and the Rajputana portion will be omitted owing to the gloomy reports of distress which are being received. The actual details will be settled directly Colonel Sandbach, Military Secretary, who has been visiting several localities the Viceroy had intended to visit, returns to Simla. It is not impossible that the Viceroy may pay a flying visit to one or two of the amnestriated tracts if arrangements can be made.

A NOTE on the administration of Civil justice in the N.-W. Provinces during the calendar year of 1899 shows that the number of permanent Civil Courts was the same as in the previous year. A Court of Small Causes was established at Cawnpore on the 1st March, 1898, one of the Cawnpore Munsifs being abolished from the same date. The number of suits instituted amounted to 99,172, the total disposed of came to 102,275, and the number pending at the close of the year came to 9,327. Institutions thus show a decrease of 1,084, and disposal a decrease of 2,612 as compared with the figures of the previous year, leaving the pending file at the close of the year higher by 773 cases.

THE first report of the indigo crop of 1899-1900 states that the area of land sown with indigo in Government villages this year up to end of August was 150,500 acres, which is about 30 per cent. less than last year's sowings and about 40 per cent. less than the normal area. The deficiency occurs almost entirely in the Deccan districts, Nellore, and Kistna, although in the Carnatic, around the city of Madras, there has also been some decrease in the area sown. In some parts of the Deccan districts, in Cuddapah, owing to the good early rainfall of April and May, more extensive sowings than usual were made, whilst the same cause affected the area sown in parts of the Carnatic, but generally the season for sowing this crop was extremely unfavourable, and the area sown has been greatly reduced. At the time when the reports were submitted the crop was in very bad condition in the Deccan districts, and was not flourishing elsewhere. It has probably improved considerably since, owing to the good rainfall since the beginning of the month.

Varieties.

EVERY experienced farmer would have some difficulty in recognising as an agricultural implement a plough which is being exhibited in Kern County, California. It is, without doubt, the biggest plough in the world, having been originally built for the purpose of making irrigation canal. Even for this huge undertaking it was found too unwieldy. To start the plough in motion eighty teams of oxen are required, and it cuts a furrow 4ft. wide. The farmers of Kern County have discarded the prize plough, which is now on exhibition.

THE oldest and, it is said, the largest match-manufacturing in the world is in Sweden. Matches were made there long before the old, roughly trimmed splinter of wood tripped with sulphur was discarded with the tinder-boxes for which they were used. In twenty-five years the export trade of Sweden in modern matches increased to 1,000 million boxes a year. Some of the machines for making the matches which we use in these days make 200 revolutions a minute, each, and turn out about two millions, and a half of matches daily, or 21 millions annually. Altogether there are in Europe about 50,000 factories, and they yearly produce matches valued at £10,000,000 sterling.

A SINGULAR and interesting discovery has been made at Borbolya, in Hungary, where the remains of an unusually large antediluvian animal have been unearthed, which a Hungarian savant pronounced to be larger than anything of the kind previously found in Europe. According to this authority the animal is a whale, eight metres long, and judging by the stratum in which it was embedded, he believes it to be the most ancient animal yet brought to light in this quarter of the globe.

EVERY town and city in the American State of Kansas is defended at each point of the compass by one small canon. The face that the only shot fired from these canons is made of common salt shows that they are not intended to save the town from human foes. Kansas is known as the land of tornado and cyclone. One or the other sweeps over the country nearly every month. Up to recent times they carried every town as well as every particle of civilisation before them. But now every approaching cyclone and tornado is shot before it reaches a town. It was discovered that if a gun were discharged into a tornado it bursts. In consequence, every town now has its special body of paid sentinels, whose duty it is to sight an approaching cyclone, and, as it is swooping down on the town, shoot it. Salt is used to avoid any accidents that might be brought about by metal bullets falling in the streets.

MEN and women have much to do to keep straight. A hundred nerves and muscles are at work all through the waking hours, giving warning or receiving orders that the body, with its many joints and natural instability, shall preserve its equilibrium, shall not stagger or double up in a hopeless heap. These nerves and muscles are a highly-organised, signal service, the chief offices of which are in the semi-circular canals buried in the "stony" bonework that protects the inner ear. Were it not for these canals a human being would find it difficult, often impossible, to maintain a proper balance, either while walking or standing still. So long as these canals are in healthy working order their reports are trustworthy, but when any undue force has shocked them, or any agency, such as sickness, has interfered with their workings, their messages are incoherent, and the brain, like the engineer of a battleship in action when the men above are blinded and bewildered, has nothing to do but let things go.

A FACT, perhaps not generally known to the profession, is that water, as well as food, requires to be assimilated, to properly fulfil its natural offices in the system. Water is not readily incorporated into the blood-serum, thinning it, increasing its solvent qualities, and lessening its plastic properties, unless it is drunk in response to thirst, such as normally follows good digestion, brisk exercise, eating salt foods, a hot bath, vigorous sweating, fever, &c. Adventitious water, water taken into the stomach without appetite, or demand for it, lingers long in the digestive organs, often producing a feeling of weight. Unless measures are employed to stimulate the assimilation of water by creating a legitimate demand for it, as expressed by thirst, it is not advisable to force too much on the system. A single glass between meals and at bedtime will wash out the stomach as well as several, where the individual manifests no desire for, or an actual repugnance to, water. Indifference to a fluid which constitutes three-fourths of the human body is abnormal, and requires treatment; but the treatment must consist in establishing a physiological need for water in the system, not in forcing nature by distending the digestive organs with a heavy fluid.

—*Medical Brief* (U.S.).

THERE is a beautiful story of an old elephant engaged in battle on the plains of India. He was a standard-bearer, and carried on his huge back the Royal ensign, the rallying-point of the Poona host. At the beginning of the fight he lost his master. The "mahout," or driver, had just given him the word to halt, when he received a fatal wound, and fell to the ground, where he lay under a heap of slain. The obedient elephant stood still while the battle closed around him and the standard he carried. He never stirred a foot, refusing to advance or retire, as the conflict became hotter and fiercer, until the Mahattas, seeing the standard still flying steadily in its place refused to believe that they were being beaten and rallied again and again round the colours. And all this while, amid the din of battle, the patient animal stood straining its ears to catch the sound of that voice it would never hear again. At length the tide of conquest left the field deserted. The Mahattas swept on in pursuit of the flying foe, but the elephant, like a rock, stood there, with the dead and dying around, and the ensign waving in its place. For three days and nights it remained where its master had given the command to halt. No bribe or threat could move it. They then sent to a village, one hundred miles away, and brought the mahout's little son. The noble hero seemed then to remember how the driver had sometimes given him authority to the little child, and immediately, with all the shattered trappings clanging as he went, paces quietly and slowly away.

AN APPEAL TO LORD SALISBURY FOR PEACE.

MR. FREDERIC Harrison has written and the *Daily Chronicle* publishes, an "open letter" to the Marquis of Salisbury on the Transvaal question. Mr. Harrison appeals to the Premier to take the matter into his own hands. The moving power in the crisis ought to rest with the Foreign, and not with the Colonial Office. Mr. Harrison says:

It is not the business of the Colonial Office to embark this Empire in a foreign war. It is no duty of the Minister for the Colonies to make war, nor to make war inevitable. It is idle to tell us that this crisis is a purely colonial difficulty, to be settled in the Colonial Office and decided by colonial interests. A war which (we are told) may open with the bringing into the field of sixty thousand British troops in a distant continent, which will inevitably lead (we are told) to prolonged military occupation of a vast tract, which may shake the whole Empire to its base, and may lead to international complications yet unperceived—such a war is an Imperial question (if any can be); a question for the head of the Government to decide, and for the head of the Foreign Office to take under his immediate eye and responsibility. It would be monstrous if a mere administrative arrangement should enable a department, pressed as it is by local ambitions, to drag these kingdoms into a tremendous international struggle, wherein the entire Empire is certain to be strained, if not brought to extreme peril, by opening its vulnerable sides at once to all its enemies and its rivals.

No legal quibbling about suzerainty can persuade us that the South African Republic is a part of the Empire. If it is not part of the Empire it must be a foreign State, even though it be one over which by agreement Great Britain has some control. But this control is solely concerned with the external, not with the internal, relations of the Republic. The point in dispute solely relates to the internal relations of the Transvaal. No one pretends that the dispute concerns the dealings of the Republic with foreign nations. Therefore, the cause of war if war there is to be, arises from matters between Great Britain and the home affairs of a Republic which is not within the Empire, not within the dominions of the Queen. If war is to be declared against such a Republic, it is pre-eminently a war for which the Foreign Office is virtually, if not technically responsible; in which the whole future of the Empire will be staked; for the justice and consequences whereof the Prime Minister of our country for the time will be judged by his countrymen and by their descendants.

My Lord, it is you whom history will hold responsible for this war, and for all its ulterior results. It is Louis Napoleon whom France holds answerable for Sedan; and not Eugénie, Olivier, or the Marshals. Mr. Chamberlain may be technically within his rights in pitting himself against President Kruger, as if he were defying the Opposition across the floor of the House. But it will be the Marquis of Salisbury who will plunge this Empire into war, whom France, Germany, Russia, and the rest, will call upon to deal with all its ulterior complications. And it is you, My Lord, whom our Queen will hold to be that one of her servants on whose head lies the weight of a war clouding the end of her long and glorious reign—a war which the majority of Englishmen know to be mean and unjust, which many men of great experience look on as charged with permanent trouble and possible disaster to our vast and scattered Empire.

A majority of Englishmen, I assert, know in their hearts that this war would be unjust, even if too many of them, knowing that, desire it to go on, notwithstanding its injustice. It is not true, however, loudly it is repeated, that the great majority of Englishmen do seek to push the war to the end. Noisy, arrogant, and trading groups of men, organised and intriguing for their own ends, are doing this. But they are not the nation. On all sides there are quiet protests being raised against it by men of all parties and of all interests, outside those interests which are playing their own game. The same quiet, but convinced reluctance to be heard from sensible and honest Conservatives. They, as we all do, put their trust in you. In Africa, whether amongst subjects of the Queen or those outside her dominions, it is a universal feeling that, if you took this matter into your own hands, it could be settled in a week. You, My Lord, whose reputation for moderation, patience, peaceable compromise of international embroilments stands so high throughout Europe, who have successfully solved far more arduous diplomatic problems with Russia, with France, with Germany, with the United States, who have a paramount authority in the councils of the nation, would immediately restore confidence to all friends of peace, in Africa or at home, if they knew that the decision lay primarily with you and not with a mere department. The department is necessarily face to face with local interests. It sees through the eyes of local adventurers and speculators' agents; it hears through their ears; it is importuned by their complaints. Their case is pressed with all the energy and the arts by which a faction is pretending to defend in France "the honour of the army." We have had evidence lately of the follies and crimes which those who seek to crush the independence of the Transvaal are able to commit. And within a few years these very men are striving to plunge the Empire into a scandalous and perilous adventure where they may find the profit, whilst we bear the shame and the cost. It may well be that the Colonial Office is not strong enough to resist the pressure of men who, not long ago, swaggered about "cutting the painter." Neither in Africa nor at home is Mr. Chamberlain held to be sufficiently master of the whole situation to meet President Kruger, as calmly as you, My Lord, have met the President of the United States and the President of the French Republic. If Mr. Chamberlain is felt to be not strong enough, or not cool enough for friendly compromise, much less is his deputy and mouth-piece in Cape Town. The crisis today concerns the United Kingdom and the Empire as a whole; for it must bring the whole Empire into the field of action, if not of war. And it is pre-eminently a case to be dealt with by him who presides over the fortunes of the Empire as a whole.

Measured by the compromises with foreign nations which you may justly claim to have brought to a successful issue, the concessions already accepted by the Republic are indeed decisive. From nine years to seven years, from seven to five years, from one demand of the Uitlanders to another, the Boers have given way. They have already conceded

the whole of the original demand made on them, and have even added more. And at every fresh concession, Sir Alfred Milner is instructed to make further demands, until throughout the Transvaal, and we may well add at home, the impression prevails that it is not concession of claims which is sought from the Republic, but submission, humiliation, and loss of independence. Is this how negotiations have been carried on when you, My Lord, as head of the Foreign Office, have dealt with Russia, Turkey, France, or the United States? This is not negotiation. It is war—war of naked aggression—war wherein the Boers will not yield without a desperate struggle and after bloody combats—a war which cannot be closed by a few victories nor the traces of it wiped out by a few promises and patriotic Englishmen devoutly trust that the Boers may not be ultimately crushed. *Bella geri placuit, nullo habitura triumpho.*

Maintaining his contention that the South African Republic is an alien Power "Mr. Harrison points out that "to force an alien Power by threats of war to take over British subjects to its own allegiance to convert loyal subjects of the Queen into alien Republicans, this is a grotesque perversion of all public law as understood between nations. As the sole object of forcing on an alien Power a large body of new citizens is to enable them to betray their acquired allegiance and to master the State in the interests of their confederates—to be in fact, the Wooden Horse admitted into the Boer Troy—it is obvious that this irreducible minimum of the new diplomacy is a transparent trick. To play it upon any European Power would arouse ridicule and contempt."

In conclusion Mr. Harrison warmly appeals to the Premier to prevent the country's being "dragged into a war, the wickedness of which is certain, but the end of which—no man can foresee."

ACIDITY PILL

Analysed and found to contain nothing injurious
An Infallible cure for Acidity and Dyspepsia.

However chronic and long-standing the diseases however violent its attack, the Acidity Pill will give you instant and permanent relief. This is what has been proved in hundreds of cases. Many are the unsolicited testimonials that have reached us and may be sent on application, for inspection.

Among others, the following names are quoted as having spoken very highly of the Acidity Pill:—
(1) The Hon. G. M. Chinnivas, C. I. E., Member of the Supreme Legislative Council; (2) Babu Bhojotosh Banerjee, D. Magt., Jessore; (3) Babu M. N. Chatterjee, Manager to H. H. the Raja Pratap Narain Singh Desh Bahadur of Jashpur; (4) Babu Nilmani De, Asst. Settlement Officer, Muzaffarpur; (5) Kumar Hemendra Krishna of Sovabazar; (6) Mr. S. C. Haldar, Political Agency, Lilgit; (7) Babu Ramdhona Paure, Dy. Inspector of Schools, Arrah; (8) Prof. Tarit Kanti Baksi, Jubbulpur; (9) Dr. Sarasi Lal Sarkar L.M.S.; (10) Pandit Satya Charan Shastri, author of *Pradapaditya*, &c.; (11) H. N. Basu M.D.; (12) Babu Amrita Krishna Mullick, Editor, *Indian Empire*; (13) Babu Priy Nath Banerjee, Executive Engineer, Sylhet; (14) Srimuty Sarojini Ghose, Lady photographer; (15) Babu Pasamatha Nath Ghose, H.D. Assistant, Commissariat, Jubbulpur; (16) Babu Mohitosh Ghosh Kanungo, Bankura; (17) *The Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Basumat* the *Hastishi* and other papers have also recommended it highly.

The Acidity Pill is purely a vegetable preparation. We guarantee a cure and refund the price in case of failure. We will gladly give away a day's medicine, free of cost, to enable sufferers to be satisfied with its marvellous curative power. We request you to give trial only when all remedies have failed to give any relief.

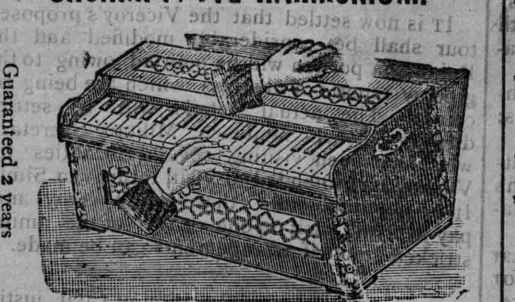
PRICE PER BOX RE. ONE; V. P. CHARGES EXTRA.

HAIRDYE.
It makes the grey and white hair, etc. black within a minute, and lasting nearly 3 months. Price Re. 1. V. P. extra.

H. BISWAS,
12 2 Bagbazar Street, Calcutta.

WARD MEDALS AND CERTIFICATES AT THE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, CALCUTTA.
MESSRS. N. L. DEY & CO'S.

SHOHINI-FLUTE HARMONIUM.



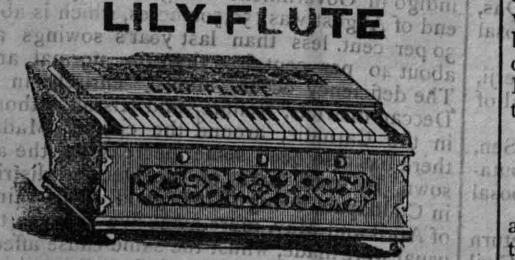
For playing Bengali and Hindustani tunes. Highly recommended by the celebrated musician.

Price Rs. 35; 38; 40.
TRIALS ARE RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.
Illustrated Catalogue free on application.

N. L. DEY & CO.,
Importers of musical instruments,
10-3 Lower Chitpore Road, Calcutta, Lalbazar.

G. KUR & SONS,
Manufacturers and Importers of Musical Instruments, Strings, fittings &c.
52, Dhurumtollah Street, Calcutta.
The Best Box Harmonium of the Day

LILY-FLUTE



Folding Lily Flute (Box & Table combined) Rs. 75.

The best Harmonium for playing Bengali and Hindustani tunes.
Exquisite tone and touch, beautiful design, and sound workmanship characterize this High Class Harmonium.

3 Octaves with 3 Stops Rs. 35; superior Rs. 40; 2 sets of Reeds, and 4 Stops Rs. 60.
Mossul order executed by V. P. P.
Catalogue free on application.



JEWELLERY AND PODDARY SHOP

Under the patronage of the nobility and gentry, Gold, silver and jewelled ornaments of approved make and finish are kept in stock or made to order at a rate cheaper than at other shops. Purity of metal and nicety of work are guaranteed. Orders are executed properly. Trials solicited.

Apply to Mohesh Chandra Boral,
Ghoramara P. O. Rajshaye.

TESTIMONIALS.
Mohesh Chandra Boral supplied the Rajshaye Diamond Jubilee Committee with silver Trowels, presentation plates, and ornamental buckets of approved design at a moderate price which gave great satisfaction to all concerned.

A. K. Maitra B. L.,
Hony. Secretary, Rajshaye.
Ornaments supplied by Mohesh Chandra Boral are of good design and approved of by all. Rates are cheaper than at other shops. I can safely recommend him to my friends and to the public at large.

Mohesh Chandra Roy, B. L.,
Rajshaye.

Novelty of Ayurvedic Medicine.
AYURVEDIC PHARMACY,
18-1 LOWER CHITPORE ROAD,
Foundary Balakhang, Calcutta.

KAVIRAJ NOGENDRA NATH SEN
practices the Ayurvedic system of medicine

after having obtained a Diploma at the final examination of one of the Government Medical Institutions of the country.

SPECIFICS
for all ordinary diseases like Fever, Cough, Asthma, Phthisis, Diabetes, etc., including disease brought on by irregularities of all kinds. Catalogues containing full accounts of diseases and remedies are transmitted on Application. Prescriptions with or without medicines, sent to every part of India and Ceylon, Cape Colony and the British Isles, on receipt (by post) of full accounts of diseases.

Thousands of unsolicited testimonials from every quarter.

ENLARGED
Sadbakalpadruma.

THE great Sanskrit Encyclopedic Lexicon of the late Raja Sir Radhakanta Deva Bahadur, K. C. S. I., revised, enlarged and improved, printed in Devanagari character, which was issuing in parts, has now been completed in 5 quarto volumes. Price Rs. 75 per set exclusive of postage. For further particulars the undersigned may be applied to Baroda Road, Calcutta, and Haricharan Bhowmik, 71, A, Bhowmik Street.

GONORRHOEA DROPS

Wonderful Discovery.

DISCOVERED by an eminent American physician and recognized by the latest edition of the American Pharmacopoeia as the only safe, sure and miraculous remedy for

GONORRHOEA AND GLEET

Of any description and in either sex. Acute cases are cured in three days and chronic cases in a week's time. The cure is permanent and radical.

It relieves the patient promptly from the most distressing symptoms.

Value returned in Case of Failure.

To ensure a permanent and radical cure the Calcutta patients are requested to see the Doctor, Mustafi patients should, when ordering for a phial, write in detail the nature of the disease.

Price Rs. 2-8 per phial V. P. P. As. 6 extra.
DR. H. BISWAS,
22-2 Bagbazar Street, Calcutta.

এসবতরণ।
বসন্ত ও হৃদয়।
আবার বিতরণ প্রথম গ্রন্থ কাশ-শ্বাস বিষ
কৃত হৃদয়ে; বাবার পুর্বে বাস বিতরণ
কিছের আর পূর্বে বিবির প্রয়োজন বাই
বৃত্ত প্রবন্ধন বাস বিবেচ।
কবিরাজ বসন্তর গোবিন্দ বাই।
১০০ ১০০ হারিন বোত, কলিকাতা।

Notice.
Notice is hereby given to the Members that the fifth Annual General Meeting of the Universal Marriage Provision and Family Relief Fund will be held at the Hall of the General Assembly's Institution [Cornwallis Square, Calcutta] on Saturday the 30th September 1899 at 4-50 P. M. The Members are requested to attend the meeting either personally or by proxy.

OUTSIDERS ARE ALSO INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.
1. To receive and pass the annual report and the audited accounts of the Fund for the year ending the 30th April 1899. 2. To elect the Directors and the Auditors for the ensuing year. 3. To confirm the alterations and additions made by the Directors in their meeting in the revised Rules and Regulations of the Fund. 4. To discuss such other business that may be brought forward.

SARAT CHAND GHOSH,
Secretary.
17 Hari Mohan Bose's Lane,
Musjidbani Street, Calcutta.
Dated the 7th Sept 1899.

KUNTALINE.

A Delightfully Perfumed Oil for Preserving the HAIR.

Prices of Kuntaline.

KUNTALINE is put up in round 6 oz. bottles and neatly packed in a Beautiful Card board Case and sold at the following prices.

	Rs.	As.
Sweet Scented	1	0
Lily Scented	1	8
Rose Scented	2	0
Jasmine Scented	2	0

A FEW NEW TESTIMONIALS.

Honble Justice Promoda Charan Banerjee, High Court, Allahabad.
I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the superior quality of the perfumery manufactured by Mr. H. Bose. His enterprise deserves encouragement.

Umar Debendra Narayan Sinha Bahadur of Moheshpur.
I have used your "Kuntaline" oil. It is very efficacious for strengthening the hair, promoting its growth and preventing wading off and premature grayness. I have derived much satisfaction from its good perfume.

Mr. Motilal Mehru, Advocate, High Court, Allahabad.
I have much pleasure in testifying to the high quality of Mr. H. Bose's perfumery. I have tried several of them and find them very fresh and delicate. They are just as good as any imported perfumery. In my opinion Mr. Bose deserves every encouragement.

Mr. S. Sinha, Bar-at-law, Allahabad.
The perfumery manufactured by Mr. H. Bose of Calcutta, will bear favourable comparison with the imported European and American perfumery, and should therefore be patronized by persons interested in the course of developing Indian industries, by giving want support they can to such enterprises.

GOLDEN OPINIONS.
Sirdar Dyal Singh Bahdur, Sirdar Saheb the Premier nobelman of the Punjab.
I have much pleasure to certify that I have tried Bose's oil and scents carefully, and found them really good. The Kuntaline oil is especially, I have no hesitation to say is superior to all I have hitherto had occasion to use. The scents are also nicely made and if not better may stand comparison with foreign makes fairly.

Mr. Manohar Lal, Lahore.
Your Kuntaline has been recommended to me by my friends here as the best hair oil in existence.

Mr. Justice P. C. Chatterji, of Lahore.
I have used the perfumed oil Kuntaline manufactured by Mr. H. Bose, as well as his Essence Chanel, and consider both exceedingly good. At the same time they are cheaper than articles of similar quality prepared by European manufacturers. I hope the public generally and native community in particular will largely patronize Mr. Madan Gopal, Barrister-at-law, Lahore.

I have much pleasure in saying that Kuntaline is an excellent hair oil and the ladies of my family consider it to be an excellent preparation. The "Delkhosh" Essence I consider to be very superior to English perfumes.

Lala Lajpat Rai, Pleader, Chief Court, Lahore.
I have used Mr. H. Bose's Kuntaline oil and Scents and found them really good. They are in no way inferior to similar articles prepared by European manufacturers.

Mr. Kali Prassann Roy, Government Pleader and leader of the Lahore Bar.
I have pleasure in stating that the oils and perfumery manufactured by Mr. H. Bose, are excellent and nowise inferior to articles of English manufacture.

Dewan Krishna Kishore, Rais, Grandson of Dewan Bhagwan Das, Lahore.
Your Kuntaline and Essences have given me entire satisfaction. The oil has a very sweet fragrance and does not make the hair sticky. The Essences are simply nice.

Maharajah J. G.indra Nath Bahadur of Natore.
I have much pleasure in certifying that I have had occasion to introduce the use of Kuntaline in my family. I was satisfied with its superior fragrance, and its tendency to promote the growth of hair. It is the best of its kind, and its wider circulation is desirable.

The Honble Surendra Nath Banerji, President of the Eleventh Indian National Congress.
I tried Mr. H. Bose's Essences, and have no hesitation in recommending them both on account of their excellence, and also because home-made articles of this kind should be encouraged.

Raj-I-Rajman Maharaj Asaf Nawazwan Murli Manohar Bahadur, Hyderabad, Deccan.
I have pleasure to say that your Essences or Flower Extracts have given me entire satisfaction. Please send another box of the finest quality Essences which I want to present to HIS HIGHNESS THE Nizam.

Mr. N. Vinkata Rao, Assistant Commissioner Mangalore.
I am very much pleased with your Essences "Delkhosh" and "White Rose".

Sreejukt Shanka Rao Holkar, Bhyar Sahib, Karkhandar Sh. goshala Indore State.
I am glad to inform you that your Milk of Roses and Kuntaline have given me entire satisfaction.

H. BOSE,
62, Bowbazar Street, Calcutta.

Now Ready.

PHOTO REPRESENTATION OF Lord Gauranga and His Bhaktas

Three centuries ago, Sree Sreenivasa Acharya, one of the greatest devotees of Lord Gauranga, had a portrait prepared of the Lord and his Bhaktas, which descended to his pious family as perhaps the most precious heirloom. Sree Sreenivasa's great-grandson was Radha Mohan Thakur, the guru or spiritual preceptor of Maharaja Nanda Kumar. The Maharaja, himself a pious Bhakta, was so captivated with the portrait that he interceded with his guru and obtained from him The painting was removed to the Maharaja's palace; and it may still be seen at the Kunja Ghata Rajbati.

The Gauranga Samaj has had a photograph of this ancient painting, taken by a celebrated artist of the own; and copies may be had at the under-mentioned rates.

Cabinet Size—Rs. 2-8 per copy.
Boudoir Size—Rs. 2-8.
packing and postage annas 4 and 8 respectively.
Dr. RASIK MOHAN CHAKRAVARTI,
Secy. Gauranga Samaj, 2, Ananda Chatterjee's Street, Calcutta.

PERFECT BRAZIL PEBBLE Spectacles and Folders

Spectacles	Folders
Steel Frame Rs. 6.	Steel Frames Rs.
Nickel " " 7.	Nickel " "
Silver " " 10.	Silver " "
Gold " " 25.	Gold " "

All kinds of Repairs undertaken. New Frame fitted. Pebbles and Crystals of accurate number matched. Special attention paid to Oculists' prescriptions. Mousul orders per V. P. Price list free on application.

DEY, MULILCK & CO
Opticians and Spectacles Makers
20, Lal Bazar Street Calcutta.

HALF PRICE SALE!

Rajasthan Half Price Rs. 3-12

The History of Rajputana and other parts of upper India by Lieut.-Col James Todd. This is not a petty states in Rajasthan that has not its thermoply and scarcely a city that has not produced a leonidus completed in a big vols each vol. contains more than 600 pages. Half price cloth bound Rupees 4-12 and paper bound Rs. 3-12. First 500 purchasers of Rajas has will get one set sterling silver studs free of charge only limited number of studs lying in our stock. Please be earlier to prevent disappointment. Postage and V. P. annas to Extra.

K. M. SIKKAR & CO.
207, Upper Circular Road Shambazar, Calcutta.

NITYA NANDA BISWAS
Jewellery, Poddary, Rajsh.

Rampr. Ba. Ghoramara, Rajshahi.

All sorts of gold silver, and jewellery ornaments are kept ready for sale, and also made to order as cheaper rates than others. Confident of the superior quality of the articles and moderate prices at which they are sold, I invite comparison and challenge competition. For particulars see illustrated catalogue price 6 annas including postage. Customers buying ornaments worth Rs. 100 will get a catalogue free of cost.

DEAR SIR,—The ornaments which you have supplied to me on order, on the occasion of my daughter's marriage, have all been of approved design, and of neat workmanship. I cannot too highly recommend the promptitude with which my order was complied with. Thanking you for the same and wishing you success, I remain (Sd.) Kedar Nath Sanyal, Esq. Asst Commr. Habiganj, Sylhet. Dated 3rd January 1890

Babu Nityananda Biswas of Rampr. Boleah has executed my orders with great promptness, and the workmanship he has exhibited is highly creditable. He is, as far as I am able to judge, honest and trustworthy in his dealing with his customers. He fully deserves encouragement and patronage. (Sd.) Nil Kant Majumdar, Professor Presidency college.

ECONOMIC PHARMACY

Homeopathic Medicines 5 and 6 pice per dram.

CHOLERA BOX, containing 12, 24, 30, and 40 Phials of medicine, a dropper, camphor, and a guide Rs. 2, 3, 3-10 and 5-5 respectively.

FAMILY BOX, containing 24, 30, 48, 60, and 104 Phials of medicine, a dropper, and a guide Rs. 3, 3-8, 5-4, 6-4, and 11-9, respectively.

M. O. Free and Postage extra.

M. BHATTACHARYA & CO.,
11, Bonfilds Lane, Calcutta.

N. B.—We have no connection with any other firm near about us.

THE AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.
(In advance.)

DAILY EDITION. Town and Mofussil.

Yearly Rs. 20 0 25 0
Half-yearly " 11 0 13 0
Quarterly " 5 12 7 0
Monthly " 2 0 2 8

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.
Back numbers are charged at Four annas per copy.

By-WEEKLY EDITION. Town and Mofussil.

Yearly Rs. 11 0
Half-yearly " 6 0
Quarterly " 3 8
Monthly " 2 0

SINGLE COPY THREE ANNAS.
Back numbers are charged at six annas per copy.

WEEKLY EDITION. Town and Mofussil.

Yearly Rs. 5 0
Half-yearly " 3 0
Quarterly " 1 12
Monthly " 0 10

SINGLE COPY THREE ANNAS.
Back numbers are charged at six annas per copy.

Not advertisement is charged at less than 1 Rupee. For Special Contract Rates, apply to the Manager.

All correspondence and remittances are to be sent to the address of Babu G. L. Ghosh, Financial Manager.

Printed and published by Hari Mohan Biswas at the PATRIKA PRESS 2, Ananda Chatterjee's Lane and issued by the PATRIKA POST OFFICE, Calcutta.

